KHERI:

A GAZETTEER,

BEING

VOLUME XLII

OF THE

DISTRICT GAZETTEERS OF THE UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH.

BY

H. R. NEVILL, I.C.S.

ALLAHABAD:

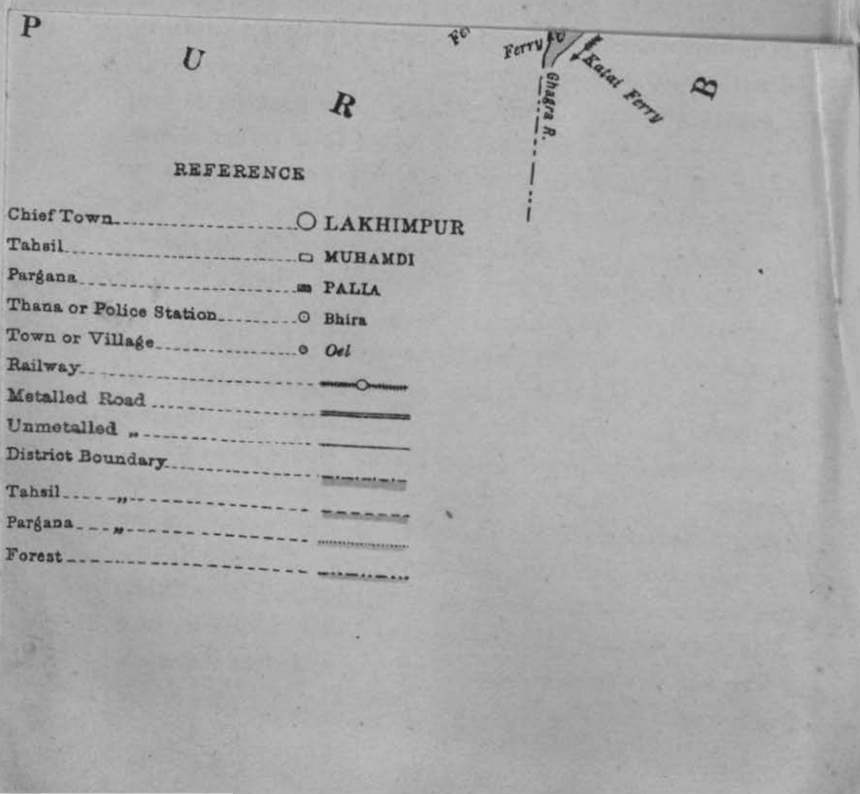
PRINTED BY F. LUKER, SUPDT., GOVT. PRESS, UNITED PROVINCES.

1905.

Price Rs. 2-8 (3*s*. 6*d*.).

GAZETTEER OF KHERI.

CONTENTS.


P
U
R
Ferry
Ghagra R.
Katai Ferry
B
REFERENCE
Chief Town .... LAKHIMPUR
Tahsil .... MUHAMDI
Pargana .... PALIA
Thana or Police Station .... Bhira
Town or Village .... Oel
Railway
Metalled Road
Unmetalled "
District Boundary
Tahsil "
Pargana "
Forest

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL FEATURES.

Boundaries and area.

The district of Kheri, which forms part of the Lucknow division, is the largest in Oudh. It occupies the extreme north-west corner of the province, and lies between the parallels of 27° 41′ and 28° 42′ north latitude and 80° 2′ and 81° 19′ east longitude. It is bounded on the east by the district of Bahraich, from which it is separated by the Kauriala river; on the south by Sitapur and Hardoi; on the west by the Rohilkhand districts of Shahjahanpur and Pilibhit; and on the north by the territory of Nepal. In shape it is an irregular triangle, the length of the southern side being some 82 miles; that of the north-eastern 91 miles and of the north-western 71 miles. It had in 1904 a total area of 1,896,457 acres, or 2,963 square miles. The boundary is partly natural and partly artificial. Along the Nepal border the Mohan river was the recognised dividing line up to 1899, when a new agreement was made in order to obviate disputes arising from the vagaries of that stream. The work of demarcating the boundary was completed in 1900, and was effected by the determination of a line along the course of the river, marked out at irregular intervals by stone pillars, between which the boundary is shown by a cleared line fifty feet broad with a trench in the centre. The boundary between Kheri and Bahraich follows the deep stream of the Kauriala. Between this district and Sitapur the boundary is formed in places by the Dahawar and other rivers, while elsewhere it is purely conventional. The same method was followed in demarcating the boundary on the west. In the south-west corner the Sukheta, and for a short distance in the centre of the western side the Kathna, separate Kheri from Shahjahanpur. Higher up the Ul performs the same function, and in the extreme north-west the Sutia is the border line between pargana Palia and Pilibhít.

Topography.

In its general aspect the district is a vast alluvial plain, covered in the northern half with wide stretches of forest, and scored with the channels of numberless rivers and watercourses. There are no prominent eminences, and the only irregularities of surface are formed by the low river beds and the high banks which flank them on either side. The result is a series of fairly elevated plateaux, separated by rivers flowing from the north-west, and each bordered by low alluvial belts of varying width. The general slope of the country is from north-west to south-east. The altitude above sea-level ranges from some 600 feet in the extreme north along the Mohan to 375 feet in the furthest south-east corner, at the junction of the Kauriala and Dahawar rivers. The slope is greatest in the country north of the Chauka; at Dudhwa the elevation is 585 feet and at Dhaurahra only 425 feet—a fall of 160 feet in some 40 miles. South of the Ul it is far more gradual. Mailani is 555 feet above the sea, while Aurangabad, 35 miles due south, is 485 feet; and Oel, forty miles to the south-east, is 467 feet. Lakhimpur itself stands high on the bank of the river, at an elevation of 483 feet.

The four main tracts.

The district may be divided into four main tracts, separated by rivers. In the south-west is the trans-Gumti tract, comprising the parganas of Pasgawan and Muhamdi, which adjoin Shahjahanpur. The western portion lies low and is covered in places by grassy wastes and *dhâk* jungle, while much of it is liable to saturation. In the centre is a belt of fertile loam, but to the east there is a fringe of inferior sandy land along the Gumti. The second tract, lying between the Gumti and Kathna, and commonly known as the Parehar, is for the most part high and sandy, especially in the neighbourhood of the Gumti; but there is a considerable depression in the north of Aurangabad. Generally the tract suffers from the want of irrigation, and the sub-soil is in most places too light to admit of the construction of unprotected wells. East of the Kathna is the central tract, comprising the parganas of Kheri, Haidarabad, Kasta and Paila. It is the richest part of the district, with a good loam soil; but on the borders of the rivers the land is often sandy and inferior. Paila and the south of Haidarabad lie low, and clay soil occurs in the depressions. Kukra Mailani, which is geographically

included in this tract, is much inferior to the rest: more than half the pargana is forest land, while the cultivated portion is divided into two tracts, the north-western being a block of high-lying loam soil and the southern portion being damp clay. The whole lacks sufficient irrigation, and is exposed to the ravages of wild animals. The last tract consists of the riverain parganas beyond the Ul. It is a wild country, cut up with innumerable channels, flooded during the rains, and so fever-stricken as to seriously impair agricultural efficiency. The north is all forest, and wild animals do great damage to the crops in its neighbourhood. The cultivation is usually shifting and unstable; a few localities in Nighasan and the south-eastern parganas are beyond the reach of floods; but the bulk of the tract is liable to be swept by the rivers, with a result that is usually destructive. The Kauriala leaves behind it coarse and unfertile sand; the Chauka and Dahawar generally give a finer deposit, in which good rice can be grown; but they, too, bring down sand when in heavy flood. Added to this, the water is everywhere close to the surface, and is almost uniformly bad.

Rivers.

It will thus be seen that the rivers are the most important physical characteristic of the district, the different portions of which chiefly owe their nature to the character of the streams on either side. These rivers belong to two main systems, those of the Gumti and the Ghagra, and may now be described in order.

Sukheta river.

The first is the Sukheta, which stands apart, as it belongs to a third system, that of the Ganges. It forms the south-west boundary of the district, separating pargana Pasgawan from Shahjahanpur. It rises in the latter district in 27° 55′ north and 80° 5′ east, and after flowing for a few miles in a south-easterly direction turns south to meet the boundary of this district. It subsequently passes through the north of Hardoi, and empties itself into the Garra. The river is a torrent during the rains and is generally impassable, except by the bridges on the roads from Lakhimpur and Sitapur to Shahjahanpur.

Gumti river.

The next river of importance is the Gumti, which separates the Muhamdi and Pasgawan parganas on the west from Atwa Piparia, Magdapur and Aurangabad on the east. This also rises in the Pilibhit district, in 28° 35′ north and 87° 80′ east, and

after a course of 42 miles through Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur enters this district at the village of Rampur and leaves it in the extreme south of Aurangabad, from which point it forms the boundary between the Hardoi and Sitapur districts. It is here of little importance, and is not navigable. The river receives on its right bank two small tributaries, both known as the Chuha, one of which rises a short distance to the north-west of Muhamdi and joins the Gumti near Maqsudpur in Pasgawan; while the other has its origin in Shahjahanpur, and after forming the boundary between Muhamdi and Pasgawan for some distance, flows south through the latter pargana and unites with the main stream on the Hardoi border. The Gumti is bridged on the roads from Shahjahanpur to Lakhimpur and Sitapur; elsewhere it is crossed by ferries. The bed of the river is well defined, being flanked by high sandy uplands with small patches of *tarai* in places.

Kathna river.

East of the Gumti is the Kathna, which rises in the Moti jhil in Shahjahanpur, and after a course of ten miles first touches this district near Mailani. Thence it flows in a southerly direction along the western borders of Kukra Mailani, Haidarabad and Kasta, after which it flows into the Sitapur district, eventually falling into the Gumti after a course of about one hundred miles. Its banks are clothed almost throughout with jungle on either side, and for this reason and also owing to the depth of the channel, it is not used for irrigation. The river is crossed by the two roads from Muhamdi to Lakhimpur and by those from Muhamdi to Piparia and from Lakhimpur to Aurangabad.

Purai.

Between the Kathna and the Ul, the next river of any size, there are one or two smaller streams. The first of these is the Purai, an insignificant and ill-defined drainage channel, which has its origin in the depressions near Khamaria in pargana Kasta and flows south-east into Sitapur, forming for a short distance the boundary between that district and Kheri. This is a tributary of the Sarayan, which it joins close to the town of Sitapur. The

Sarayan.

Sarayan rises in the Haidarabad pargana and near the town of Gola; but at first it is a very small stream, and only assumes a clearly-defined shape when it reaches the borders of Kasta. It then flows along the north of that pargana, which it separates from Paila, in a very tortuous course, eventually turning south into the

Sitapur district, after traversing which it joins the Gumti. On the Sitapur border it is fed by the Jamwari, a small stream which rises in the north of Paila and flows south-east through that pargana and Kheri. On reaching the southern boundary of the latter, it turns west along the district border and joins the Sarayan after a course of some 30 miles. Both of these rivers flow in shallow beds and in wet years are apt to cause destructive and extensive floods. **Jamwari.**

Kewani. The remaining rivers belong to the great system which develops into the Ghagra. The first, but the least important, of these is the Kewani, which rises in pargana Kheri, near the village of Jumaita, and flows south into Sitapur, forming for a few miles the boundary of the district. It is a small stream, fordable except during the rains. It eventually falls into the Chauka in the Sitapur district. East of this are many watercourses, which have from time to time been the channels of the Ul, Chauka, Ghagra and Ghaghi rivers.

Ul river. The Ul, which flows from north-west to south-east through the centre of the district, is a river of considerable dimensions. It rises in a series of swamps in pargana Puranpur of Pilibhit and first touches Kheri in the north-west of pargana Bhur. It forms throughout the boundary of this pargana, separating it from Kukra Mailani and Paila on the west and south, and afterwards it divides Kheri from Srinagar for nearly the whole distance. In the last part of its course it bends northwards into Srinagar, adopting an old bed of the Chauka, and then again south-east, eventually joining the present Chauka on the southern borders of the district close to the boundary of the Lakhimpur and Nighasan tahsíls. It has a total length of about 110 miles. During the cold weather the river is almost dry ; but in the rains it swells to a large volume, being in places one-third of a mile broad and ten feet deep or more. It is liable to floods, and as the bed lies low does some damage to the cultivation in the river valley. The river is bridged on the roads from Lakhimpur to Nighasan and from Aliganj to Gola.

Chauka river. Beyond the Ul lies the wide valley of the Chauka or Sarda. This river, which is known by many different names, contains the combined streams of the Kali and Sarju, the former having

its origin in the high snow-clad ridge that separates Almora and Nepal from Tibet, and the latter rising on the eastern side of the Nandakot peak and then flowing south-eastwards through Almora to join the Kali at Rameshwar. Thence it flows south between Almora and Nepal, the joint stream being known as the Kali. After leaving the hills near Tanakpur, it turns south-east, separating the Tarai parganas and Pilibhit from Nepal, under the name of the Sarda. At Motighat in the Pilibhit district it is joined by the Chauka, a stream which probably represents merely an old bed of the river. From that point it is generally known as the Chauka till it joins the Ghagra near Bahramghat. The river throughout the course in this district separates Lakhimpur from the Nighasan tahsil. Its bed is liable to great changes, and from time to time extensive alterations have occurred in its course through Kheri. From one year to another it is never possible to guess where the river will next elect to flow; a great part of the lowlying country in its neighbourhood being flooded during the rains, it is always liable to carve out for itself a new channel. It is generally believed that the present Sarju or Suheli represents an ancient bed of the Chauka, while the same may be equally true of the Ul. Almost the whole of pargana Srinagar is cut up by ancient channels and watercourses; and about seventy years ago, in a season of unusual flood, the river suddenly adopted the bed of the Kandhwa *nala*, destroying the villages of Srinagar and Mahewa. It slowly worked its way back, and for about thirty years used the new and the old channels impartially. Then the waters returned to their former bed and there remained. A great change occurred in 1895, when the Chauka adopted the course of the Dahawar and poured most of its waters along that stream into the Kauriala near Mallanpur; but it now exhibits a tendency to return to its ancient channel. The Chauka is generally navigable and large boats ascend the river as far as the Marauncha ghat. It is nowhere bridged, but is crossed by numerous ferries.

Dahawar.

The Dahawar, which has now practically ceased to exist as a separate river except in its upper reaches, is fed by a small stream known as the Sukhni, which flows through the parganas of Nighasan, Dhaurahra and Firozabad. Both these streams and

the upper portion of the Dahawar, which lies a short distance to the west, are of little importance and probably represent an old bed of the Chauka.

Suheli river. The Sarju or Suheli river enters the district from Nepal in the north of pargana Palia and flows in a south-easterly direction with a very irregular course along the boundary of the Khairigarh pargana, eventually joining the Kauriala near Shitaba ghat. Like the Chauka, its course is liable to change and its bed varies from year to year. It has an average width of some sixty yards, but the depth is small and the current sluggish. It is fed by several small tributary streams, most of which flow down from the higher land on the north, draining the central depression of the forest tract of Khairigarh. The high bank on the north, forming the southern boundary of the *sal* forest, is about twenty feet high and occasionally more. Sometimes it follows close along the edge of the river and elsewhere recedes to a distance of a mile or so, leaving a low *tarai* along the river-side. On both sides of the stream there are numerous channels and watercourses which formerly contained the bulk of its waters. As already mentioned, the river is believed to have at one time been identical with the Chauka, but its present junction with the Kauriala has assumed a permanent character.

Mohan river. Along the northern borders of Khairigarh flows the Mohan, which enters the district from Nepal near the village of Kanjaria and flows south-east to join the Kauriala a short distance above Ramnagar. It rises in the swamps of the Nepal forests, and is at first but a small stream; but after receiving a number of tributaries, among which may be mentioned the Katni and Gandhra, its volume is greatly increased; at Chandan Chauki it is a considerable river with steep banks and a well-defined bed. The deep stream of the Mohan was till recently the boundary of the district, but constant variations rendered a fixed boundary advisable, and the demarcation of this has been recently carried out.

Kauriala river. Lastly, there is the Kauriala, which flows along the eastern boundary of the district; a great river which has its origin in the Nepal hills and is known by this name till its junction with the Chauka, after which it becomes the Ghagra. It flows in a wide and sandy bed, and its channel is liable to undergo constant

changes. Its banks are usually clothed with stretches of *jhau* or tamarisk jungle. The floods of this river occasionally do much damage. In 1871 it destroyed the ancient fort of Amargarh in pargana Dhaurahra, a stronghold of the Jangre chiefs. At the same time a temple near the fort was swept away, great fragments of the wall tumbling into the rushing water. It is generally alleged by the people that while they were watching the destruction of the shrine, a large iron-bound chest appeared in a recess laid bare in the wall beneath the floor of the temple. This was believed to be the hidden treasure of the rebel Raja of Dhaurahra, who was known to have concealed it somewhere in the neighbourhood; but before ropes could be procured, the remainder of the edifice was swept into the torrent and its ruins buried in the sand. The Kauriala is crossed by several ferries leading to the Bahraich district, a list of which will be found in the appendix.

Lakes and jhils.

A very large area of the district is covered by water, amounting in 1904 to 106,117 acres or 6·6 per cent. of the whole, excluding the forests, in which perhaps the percentage is even greater. The proportion is unusually high; but this is only to be expected in Kheri, where the rivers and streams are exceptionally numerous, and where they have so frequently changed their course, leaving behind old channels in which the water collects to form lakes or swamps of a more or less permanent character. The area under water is greatest in the Nighasan tahsíl, where it reaches the proportion of some 9·6 per cent. of the whole area; next comes Lakhimpur with about six per cent., and lastly Muhamdi, in which the average is only 3·1 per cent., ranging from 4·15 in pargana Haidarabad to only two per cent. in Magdapur. There are very few regular lakes north of the Ul, but numerous large sheets of water occur to the south, in Paila, Haidarabad and Kheri. The largest, that at Simri in Paila, measures about two miles in length and breadth; in pargana Kheri there are fine stretches of water at Gumchini and Muhammadabad, and another large jhil borders the village of Sikandarabad. In these lakes the average depth of water is about three feet, and all are navigable by small boats hollowed out of the trunks of trees. North of the Ul the old channels of the

Chauka, Kauriala and other rivers have left pools and depressions filled with water, especially where the stream took a curve. These lakes, which are locally termed *bhaghárs,* are sometimes from ten to twenty feet deep and three or four miles long, while their high banks are in places fringed with magnificent groves. Some of the most noticeable of these lakes are those at Ramia Bihar in Dhaurahra, beyond Tirkaulia in Palia, and near Matera on the Kauriala. Others of great size are at Dharmanpur in Palia, in Nighasan, and all along the Suheli. In the forests of Khairigarh there are many such lakes and swamps, and also in the north-eastern portion of the pargana, between Singahi and the Kauriala. Mention may be made of the Rohia, Patehri and Jabda lakes in this tract, and those of Bhadi, Jharela, Khajua, Mujhela and Banki in the forest. Few of the larger sheets of water are used for irrigation, but in the south the smaller jhils and the numerous tanks are freely employed for this purpose and in ordinary years constitute the chief source of supply for watering the rabi harvest.

Forests. The forests of Kheri are the most important in Oudh: they not only cover a far greater area, amounting to nearly half the forest land in the province, but also contain superior timber to those of Gonda and Bahraich. The forest area, which includes all the reserved land, whether covered with trees or not, comprises the greater part of the Khairigarh pargana in the north, a considerable proportion of Palia and Nighasan to the north of the Chauka river; and a second expanse of wooded country in the west, extending over much of the Bhur and Kukra-Mailani parganas. These woods stretch southwards along the banks of the rivers as far as the Hardoi and Sitapur districts. There is a continuous tract of forest all along the Kathna from Mailani to the southern boundary of the district, while the eastern bank of the Gumti exhibits patches of forests as far south as Muhamdi, and again along the Ul there are unbroken woods extending to within a short distance of Lakhimpur. The total forest area is about 563 square miles; not all of this, however, consists of Government forests, as some 113 square miles are private property.

History. The history of the Government forests dates from 1861, when 303 square miles, of which 278 were in Khairigarh and 25

in Bhur, were taken over and preserved as forest lands. The remaining 347 square miles of jungle were divided into lots of 5,000 acres or less and given to men of supposed enterprise, who were to hold it revenue-free for twenty years, and then pay only half the revenue assessed on similar land. The only conditions were that they should cut down a quarter of the forest and bring a quarter of the land under cultivation within twelve years. Some grants were sold outright at a price of Rs. 2-8-0 per acre. Hardly any of these forest lessees either brought the land under cultivation under the first set of conditions, or paid up the due instalments of their purchase-money under the second, and consequently grants covering more than 120 square miles were resumed by the State, while at the present time the area held by landlords is but 72,371 acres. The Government forests, extending from Kheri to Gonda, were placed at first under an officer styled the Superintendent of Forests. In the Kheri, or first division as it was called, were included all the *sal* and miscellaneous forests and grass lands in Khairigarh between the Mohan and Suheli rivers, with the exception of the Bardia villages. In 1867 certain areas to the south of the Suheli in pargana Nighasan, which had been marked off as grants, but not disposed of, were transferred to the Forest department, and to these were added the grants resumed between 1870 and 1875. This tract, after minor alterations, due to the exclusion of certain cultivated lands within the grants and the addition of a few hundred acres here and there, was constituted a separate subdivision now known as the Bhira forest. The trans-Sarda forests and Bhira were reserved in 1879, and the subsequent modifications will be noted in dealing with the several ranges.*

Trans-Sarda forests.

The forest land to the north of the Sarda lies mainly in the Khairigarh pargana, beyond the Suheli or Sarju river; but considerable portions are situated to the west of this stream in Palia and Nighasan. Since the reservation of the forest in 1879 only one change of importance has taken place. This was the transfer to Government of the 27 villages known as the Bardia estate from the taluqa of Khairigarh in return for certain outlying areas of miscellaneous forest. The exchange was proposed as

* Notifications Nos. 194 and 195 of 28th February 1879.

early as 1868, when the Conservator pointed out the desirability of acquiring these lands which lay within the forest boundaries. Desultory negotiations were carried on for twenty years; but it was not till 1894 that a formal agreement was made, and soon after the lands were incorporated in the forest. From 1894 to 1899 the villages were managed by the Deputy Conservator, but in the latter year 18 villages were handed over to the district officer and the remaining nine, which were uninhabited, were reserved.* Subsequently four more villages were reserved, three of which had long been deserted, while the other, Lohti, contained but a few acres of cultivation.† The total area of this forest was thus increased to 267 square miles, while in July 1905 the other 14 villages of Bardia were reserved and handed over to the department, bringing up the total to 295 square miles.‡

The forest may be divided roughly into two parts, the high alluvial land under *sal*, and the low levels under miscellaneous species and grass. Only one-third, however, of the *sal* is on really high ground, the remainder being on an intermediate level. The high alluvial land is that above the *damar* or high bank, a well-defined ridge extending as far south as Khairigarh, about 30 feet in height. At the top of this bank is a plateau extending inland for a varying distance and ending in an interior drop of some ten feet to the low-level *sal* forests and open grass plains. This low-lying tract is traversed by numerous streams and water-courses, such as the Nagra, Neora, Chawa and Jauraha, and dotted with many depressions, the chief of which are the Mujhela, Bhadi, Ludaria, Ranwas, Nagra, Banki, and Churela lakes. Beyond this tract the ground again rises to a similar plateau running along the course of the Mohan. It would appear that at one time all the country between the two rivers was a level high plain, but that it was lowered by the action of the central drainage channels. In the extreme north, near Kanjaria, there is a large stretch of this high ground, which extends into Nepal. The low levels of the central portion are covered with *sal* as well as the higher plateau, but are characterised by extensive grass blanks or Configuration.

* Notification No. 400 of 29th May, 1900.

† Notification No. 892 of 23rd March, 1902.

‡ Notification No. 330 of 12th June 1905.

phantas, with a few waterlogged depressions, in which no trees can grow. The low alluvium proper comprises the lands below the high bank on both sides of the Suheli and on the right of the Mohan from Gaurighat to Ranwas, and consists of miscellaneous forest about 33 miles in length in the case of the former and 15 miles along the Mohan; the breadth ranges from a few chains to some three miles. Most of the forest lies above the reach of floods; but the lower portions, which are intersected by numerous channels and streams, are completely submerged during the rains. There are many large lakes in the low alluvium, the chief being Sathiana, Tedia, Mandhria, Kakraha and Kusumbha on the Suheli side; and Mahadewa and Maknaha on the Mohan side. The boundaries of the forest were temporarily demarcated in 1861; but during the next five years they were redefined and eventually masonry pillars, connected by ditches, were erected. In 1894 a fresh demarcation was found necessary, and a series of numbered monoliths was put up.

Management. Before the forests came under Government control, portions of them, adjoining the cultivated land and near the rivers, had been worked for *sal* timber by the Raja of Khairigarh. Elsewhere nothing was done beyond tapping for resin. In 1861 selection fellings were started, and the best timber exported to Bahramghat. There was no market for inferior timber or fuel, and it was not till 1882 that the railway opened a new source of income from sleepers, scantlings, signal-posts and the like. The *khair* forests were largely exploited from 1878 onwards, and have been since worked out. Up to 1891 nearly all the fellings were carried out departmentally; but in the three succeeding years this was completely changed for private agency—a system which has since been maintained. In 1892 a working-plan was drawn up by Mr. Keshavanand. The general scheme of the plan was to give complete rest to the portions that had been most heavily taxed in recent years or only just closed to grazing, and to have a regular series of improvement fellings in other parts. The plan was subsequently modified in order to equalize the outturn and for other reasons, and in 1903 was superseded by a new plan drawn up by Mr. F. A. Leete for a period of thirty years. This plan, however, is at present under revision, and arrangements will

be made for a felling rotation of 21 years. Under existing arrangements the forest is divided into two ranges known as Kanjaria and Khairigarh, each of which is divided into two working circles. In the Kanjaria range the circles are the west *sal*, which comprises all the forest land proper and is divided into 35 compartments, and the west open circle, which consists of low alluvial soil below the high bank, and comprises the Bangaon block in the extreme north, and the Sumerpur and Sathiana blocks in the west and south along the Suheli. The Khairigarh range, which is separated from the former by a line running north-east through the forest from Dudhwa, consists of the east *sal* and east open circles; the former comprising 40 compartments of forest land, and the latter the low alluvial blocks of Pharsaia, Kakraha, Gulra, Kusumbha, Maholi and Nuniya, and a long and narrow strip of similar land along the Mohan river. The general working scheme is to remove by selection fellings all the mature stock above 6 feet in girth, excepting those individuals whose retention is advisable from a sylvicultural point of view. The growth of the younger stock will at the same time be promoted by improvement fellings, thinnings and cleanings. The area of the whole forest will be operated on in 21 years, an approximately proportionate area forming each year's annual *coupe*.

The Kanjaria range has a total area of 78,644 acres, of which 48,032 acres are in the west *sal* circle. Of the latter 42,546 acres are under fire protection, including 6,451 acres of open grass land, *nalas* and fire-lines. Of the remaining area 15,211 acres forming the west open working circle are stocked, half with miscellaneous unprotected forest and half with grass only. The other 15,401 acres are occupied by eleven of the Bardia villages. The Khairigarh range has a total area of 110,531 acres, of which 79,105 acres belong to the east *sal* circle. The remainder is unprotected and consists chiefly of *khair* and *shisham* forests and other miscellaneous species; but 2,960 acres near Chandan Chauki are taken up by five forest villages. Of the east *sal* circle 54,341 acres are stocked, while the rest consists of open grass, *nalas* and swamps. It is protected against fire with the exception of 14,447 acres of grass land. The area.

Bhira forests.

The Bhira forest consists of an irregularly-shaped block of land in the Kukra-Mailani pargana and the west and north-west of Bhur, and two detached portions, of which one, known as Allenganj, lies to the north in the extreme north-west corner of Bhur; and the other called the Mailani forest, is situated to the west on the river Kathna. The main block has an area of 95,413 acres, while the others together cover 3,176 acres. When first reserved in 1879 the forest was placed in charge of the Pilibhit divisional officer, and so remained till 1892, when it again formed a range and was attached to the Kheri division. In 1880 a small area of 131 acres of old cultivation was acquired and reserved,* and similar areas, aggregating 227 acres, which were taken over at the same time, were reserved in 1893.† In 1881 the Allenganj and Wazirnagar grants, comprising 4,206 acres of *sal* forest, were acquired from Mr. Hearsey in exchange for 4,280 acres of reserved scrub jungle and grass lands in this district and Hardoi, and were reserved in 1893.‡ A further addition of 5,053 acres, known as the Kathna and Mailani grants, were made over by the district authorities in 1885 and added to the reserves in the following year.§ Again, the area was reduced by the transfer of 197 acres of reserved forest in 1891 to the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway,‖ and by 131 acres given back to the Bhur estate. Lastly, an addition of 2,433 acres was made by exchange of land from Thakur Gobardhan Singh of Bijua. The forest boundary was formerly marked by a three-foot ditch connecting the old masonry pillars erected when the grants were made under the waste land rules. This has been recently replaced by a series of numbered monoliths set up at a convenient distance from each other.

Configuration.

Like the trans-Sarda forest the Bhira range consists of two main portions, the high ground covered with *sal* trees and the low alluvium, generally known as *ganjar*, more sparsely clad with *khair* and miscellaneous species. The former consists of a

* Notification No. 5 of 2nd July 1880.

† Notification No. 362F of 1893.

‡ Notification No. 822 of 18th September 1893.

§ Notification No. 183F of 2nd April 1886.

‖ Notification No. 203F of 28th July 1891.

plateau running from north-west to south-east, between the Kathna and Barauncha rivers, with an average length of some 27 miles and a breadth of six miles. On the north and north-east it is separated from the low alluvium by a high bank which nearly touches the Sarda at the northern corners of the Allenganj and Kataia blocks, and then running along the south bank of the Barauncha passes out of the forest at the eastern extremity. A similar high bank separates the plateau on the west from the low-lands along the Ul and Kathna. This upland area is broken by the rivers and a number of watercourses and depressions representing the abandoned channels of former rivers. The chief of these are the Kukargadha and Kidwar *nalas*, which are almost continuous, and appear to be the remains of a western course of the Ul. The action of the rivers has resulted in the formation of a series of ridges and mounds running through the forest; these rise to a considerable height above the depressions and *nalas*, and slope off gradually into the neighbouring grass lands; so that on either side of the Ul is a succession of terraces descending to the river. In the depressions the prevailing growth is dense grass, while the higher ground is covered with *sal*. The forest is interrupted by many open glades or *chandars*, covered with stunted scrub and sparse grass, the soil being poor and sandy. As they run in a direction generally parallel with the streams, it seems probable that they represent old river beds. The low-lands or *ganjar* in the Bhira forest cover a small area, between the high bank on the north and north-east and the Sarda. They consist of a stretch of land scored by a number of streams, of which the chief is the Sutia; the channels generally follow the ordinary direction of the rivers, but are very irregular and form jhils and small lakes at every bend of their course. The whole area is 4,277 acres, and comprises the Khamaria block, covered partly with *khair* and other trees and partly with grass jungle. The latter is completely waterlogged in the rains, and the trees only grow on the more elevated portions. The forest village of Kataia is also situated in this area.

Management.

For the management of the forest a working-plan was drawn up in 1893-94 by Mr. Keshavanand for a period of 24 years, and this was supplemented by a further plan for 22 years

compiled in 1896; but both are now under revision. Prior to the construction of the railway these forests had been practically unworked. While in the occupation of the grantees, the more accessible portions to the south of the Ul were worked for small timber; but in the rest little was done beyond tapping for resin. The produce was exported to Shahjahanpur and Lucknow, and the rates charged by the grantees varied from one rupee to two rupees annually for each exporter. When the forests were taken over by Government they were found to have suffered so much from the old wasteful methods that any further extraction of green timber of the more valuable species was considered inadvisable; but saplings and poles of inferior kinds were still removed by the neighbouring villagers and other consumers. In 1877 portions of the forest were brought under fire protection; but no systematic working was attempted owing to the want of a suitable market. This was created in 1890 by the opening of the railway, and in the following year improvement fellings were begun for the purposes of supplying fuel. The *khair* forest in the north was worked in 1889 and in the following year, and all the trees which could yield catechu were felled. The first working-plan divided the forests into four working circles, subdivided into 28 compartments, varying in extent from about 700 to 8,000 acres.

Kishanpur circle. The first of these circles is the Kishanpur, with a total area of 16,946 acres, of which 9,380 acres are stocked with trees and closed to fire and grazing, while the rest consists of grass land and stream beds. This circle comprises the area to the north of the branch line from Mailani to Bhira and takes its name from the rest-house of Kishanpur. It consists of four compartments, the southern boundary lying along the railway from the village of Mailani on the west to the Kishanpur-Hirapur road on the east. On the east it extends to this road as far as its junction with that from Bhira to Kishanpur, which encloses the forests on the north-east. On the north the boundary is the road running due west from Kishanpur to the Ul river, and on the west the forest extends to the Shahjahanpur district. The circle is set apart for the growth of small timber with a view to improving the existing stock.

The second circle is known as Marha, from the rest-house of that name. It has an area of 29,874 acres, of which 23,471 acres consist of forest land under fire protection and closed to grazing and the remainder of open grass waste. It consists of ten compartments and lies to the south of the railway, from Mailani on the west to the Kishanpur-Hirapur road on the east. The western boundary lies along the village lands of Mailani and Salabatnagar in the north, the private forests of Messrs. Carew and Company in the centre, the dividing line being a *nala* known as the Sutia, and the road from Khareta to Mahorena in the south. The southern boundary is formed by the road from Hirapur to Singha, from Singha to Pipal, the villages of Kukra and Sarkarpur grant, and the road from Kukra to Mahorena. This circle produces a fair quantity of small timber but is chiefly used for supplying the large quantities of fuel required by the railway. There are besides two detached compartments to the south, extending from the lands of Gola on the south to the Kidwar stream on the north. On the east they are bounded by the road from Gola to Palhanpur, and on the west by the private forests of Gola, Sarkarpur and Kukra. **Marha circle.**

The third circle, known as Hirapur, is an irregular tract of forest, covering in all 47,547 acres. Of this 40,512 acres are stocked with trees and closed to fire, while the rest consists of grass lands and waste. It is made up of 13 compartments. Two of these lie to the south-west of Marha, between the Kathna river and the road from Khareta to Mahorena. The bulk of the forest lies between the Ul and the Barauncha rivers, and consists of a long strip of land extending along the eastern boundaries of Marha and Kishanpur and including two large blocks to the south and north-east of the latter as well as the detached portions known as Allenganj and Kataia. It extends as far south as the road from Gola to Aliganj. It was for this circle that the supplementary working-plan of 1896 was framed, as previously the forest was burdened with concessions in grazing, timber and minor produce, which were undefined and could be claimed in any portion of the circle. A record of rights was prepared and the concessions were restricted to certain areas known as the grazing **Hirapur circle.**

sub-working circle.* The rest was divided in four similar sub-circles, one of which, Kataia, is managed in the same way as Kishanpur, and the others, called Palhanpur, Gola and Mahorena, are organised like the Marha circle.

Khamaria circle.

The last circle of the range is the Khamaria, which comprises the small block of 4,222 acres in the low alluvium between Kishanpur and the Sarda. Less than half the area is stocked, the produce consisting of *khair* trees at present in an immature state.

Forest staff.

The staff of the Bhira forest comprises a ranger, a forester and 14 forest guards, while it is annually strengthened by the addition of a large temporary establishment for protective purposes. In the Khairigarh forests there are four rangers, two foresters, and 22 forest guards: during the working season the staff is supplemented by *jamadars* and *chaprasis* to assist in the marking and felling operations and by clerks at the depôts. Labour is obtained from Nepal for the most part, numbers of hillmen coming down during the cold weather, when work is alone possible. During the rains most of the forest guards live at Palia or Khairigarh. In the working season the range offices are at Dudhwa and Sonaripur. There are bungalows in the Kanjaria range at Kiratpur, Bankati, Sathiana, and Dudhwa; in Khairigarh at Sonaripur, Salukapur, Chandan Chauki, Changa Nala, Belraian, and the Ghori Shah fort and in the Bhira range at Mailani, Kishanpur, Gola, Bhira, Marha, and Palhanpur.

Protection.

The first attempt at protection in the trans-Sarda forest was made in 1873, when a regular system of fire conservancy was introduced, but it only applied to nine compartments near Dudhwa. Extensions were gradually made, but it was not till 1892 that the whole of the *sal* forests were brought under protection. Severe fires still occur from time to time, but since 1884 no great damage has been done, except in the case of an unusually bad fire in 1896, when over 43,000 acres were burnt, and in 1903, when the area destroyed was more than 10,000. In order to prevent the spread of fires the forests are divided into blocks by lines of 100 feet and 50 feet wide, which are cleared annually.

* G. O. No. $\frac{588}{\frac{XIV-803}{I}}$ of 2nd October 1895.

The interior grass plains and a wide strip along the lowlying forests are fired departmentally in order to isolate the *sal* reserves. In the Bhira forest, fire conservancy was not introduced till 1877, when a small area was first protected in the vicinity or Marha. Additions were made during succeeding years, but it was not till 1885 that the attempts to protect a large area were a complete success. Since 1892 the whole range has been under protection, and in recent years the work of excluding fires has been most successful.

In the reserved forests no rights of user whatever exist, but certain neighbouring villages have from the beginning enjoyed concessions in them. Orders have been issued from time to time for the regulation of these privileges. In 1861 only four kinds of timber, *sal*, *shisham*, *tun* and ebony, were reserved; but at a later date, *dhao*, *asaina*, *khair* and *haldu* were added to the number. The forest rules of 1866 gave permission to villages within three miles of the boundary to take out for their domestic use and farming purposes whatever they liked, other than timber of the eight reserved kinds.* In 1876 a commission was appointed to enquire into these concessions, with the result that the privileges were rather extended than otherwise. The concessions were in no way limited, and the unchecked permission of grazing interfered with proper management, especially by delaying the introduction of fire conservancy. In 1879 similar concessions were granted to privileged villages in the neighbourhood of the Bhira range, permitting the inhabitants to cut inferior timber and poles of ebony *dhao* and *asaina*, and to take out dry *sal*, whether fallen or standing, fuel and thatching grass, free of charge so long as they were for their own *bonâ fide* use. They were also allowed to graze their cattle at half the ordinary rate, and till 1892 were allowed to burn more than half the forest. It was not until 1895 that the privileges were defined and limited as to quantity and locality, although in Bhira 71 square miles had been closed to grazing in 1892†. These limitations do not effect the Tharus in the Bardia villages, who still continue to enjoy free grazing and timber under the orders of 1879. With the transfer of these

Rights.

* Notification No. 27F of 24th September 1866.

† Notification No. 588 of 2nd October 1895.

villages to the Forest department the privileges of the Khairigarh estate ceased; but it has been found advantageous to grant timber and thatching grass at a reduced rate to certain Khairigarh villages in return for aid rendered during the fire conservancy season.

Products. As has been already mentioned, the chief product of the forest is *sal* timber (*Shorea robusta*) and the primary object of management is the production of a continuous yield of a maximum quantity of such timber of good quality and large dimensions. It is chiefly exported from the trans-Sarda forest in the form of sleepers, logs and poles, the average amount removed annually between 1896 and 1901 being over 362,000 cubic feet. The exports of other trees from these forests have been very small as compared with those of *sal*. The most important is the *asaina* (*Terminalia tomentosa*) which averaged nearly 69,000 cubic feet. This tree is found mixed with the *sal* in varying proportions; on the high ground it forms about one-fifth of the total stock, while in the lower levels it is far more common. The miscellaneous species of the northern forests are very numerous. The most important in the upland tract are the *haldu*, *jamun* and *sandan*, while in the low alluvium *shisham* and *khair* are the most numerous and the latter of considerable value. In the Bhira range the trees are generally the same, but the *sal* is of inferior quality and large timber is not available. Considerable amounts of *sal* and *asaina* are exported in the form of small logs and poles, but the bulk of the produce consists of fuel, of which a large quantity is required annually by the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway. The minor produce is of some value, consisting of *baib* and thatching-grass, catechu and other less important articles such as hides and honey. The grazing fees have also constituted a considerable source of income and are charged at lower rates for those villages which are allowed concessions than for others. The chief market for all the forests is the railway, which takes immense quantities of fuel and sleepers and a considerable amount of logs and piles. There is, however, a brisk local demand springing up for poles in the Bhira forests. The foreign market consists of the sale of logs and sawn timber in large towns such as Dehli, Meerut, Shahjahanpur, Bareilly and

Lucknow, as well as fuel, small timber and *baib* grass, the last being used for the manufacture of paper at Lucknow.

Revenue. The revenue derived from the forests is large. In 1884 the surplus amounted to Rs. 1,52,250 and in 1889 to Rs. 1,35,800. Prior to 1892, when all the working and export was done departmentally, the expenditure was very much larger and the excess of revenue over expenditure was not more than 38 per cent. Since that time private agency has been relied upon for the exploitation of the forests, and the result has been most satisfactory. From 1894 to 1901 the receipts exceeded the charges by no less than 206 per cent. and in the last year the net income derived amounted to nearly Rs. 1,92,000 while the expenditure was only Rs. 62,700.

Groves. Besides the Government forests and the private forests, which are the remnants of the old grants and are for the most part in the Kukra, Bhur, Haidarabad and Atwa Piparia parganas, there are numerous groves which have from time to time been planted by zamindars and others. These groves are chiefly to be found in those parts where there is no forest, as in the southern parganas. In those tracts which adjoin the forests the artificial plantations cover but a small area. At the first regular settlement the land covered by groves amounted to 36,275 acres or only two per cent. of the total area—a very low proportion for Oudh. In pargana Kheri, however, it was no less than five per cent. and in Haidarabad, Muhamdi and Pasgawan it was about four per cent. On the other hand it was no more than one per cent. in Kukra and the parganas north of the Ul, while in Palia the total grove area was only 229 acres. During the currency of the settlement there was a considerable increase, many new groves being planted, and the area occupied by them had risen in 1899 to 39,882 acres. In 1903 it had slightly declined, being altogether 38,726 acres or 2·4 per cent. of the whole district, excluding the reserved forest. The increase had been greatest in the pargana of Dhaurahra, where the grove area had risen from 2,876 to 3,921 acres; it was also large in Srinagar, Paila, Aurangabad and Nighasan, while the other parganas all showed slight extensions except Muhamdi and Kasta, where there had been an insignificant decline. These groves are chiefly of mango: in several places

jamun and *shisham* plantations are to be seen, while the *bel*, *tamarind* and other fruit trees are occasionally planted. The *mahua* is not common in this district, and it is only found in the forests. There are considerable areas of *dhák* and scrub jungle outside the forest tracts, which are of little value save for the lac obtained from the former, and are being gradually replaced by cultivated fields. The trees of the district are of the usual varieties common to the north of Oudh : the more valuable species have already been mentioned in connection with the forests; while the others, which for the most part are found singly or in small groups, call for no special comment. The most conspicuous are the *semal* in the north and the *pákar* in the southern pargana.

Minerals. The geology of the district exposes nothing but the ordinary Gangetic alluvium, and consequently the mineral products of the district are but few. Kankar is found in several parts of the Lakhimpur and Muhamdi tahsils, but the deposits are generally small and of an inferior character. The only extensive beds are at Gola, where the kankar is of good quality and of the variety known as *silia*. There is absolutely none in the Nighasan tahsil and this fact, combined with its comparative rarity in other parts of the district, largely accounts for the absence of metalled roads. The cost varies, as usual, with the distance from the quarry, but generally the rate for digging and stacking by the roadside ranges from Re. 1-15 to Rs. 2-8 per hundred cubic feet, while the cost of carriage is eight annas a mile. Lime of good quality is obtained from the *silia* kankar, and sells at Lakhimpur at the rate of Rs. 19 or Rs. 21 per hundred cubic feet. Brick earth is obtainable in most parts of the Lakhimpur and Muhamdi tahsils, and bricks of fair quality and colour are produced : in Nighasan the clay is of a poor description and the colour is generally very bad.

Building materials. Bricks are made in three qualities, and the prevailing rates per thousand, delivered within a mile of the kiln, are Rs. 10, Rs. 8 and Rs. 6 respectively. Other building materials are generally obtainable without difficulty, except in the case of stone, which has to be imported from a great distance. *Sal* timber is naturally abundant, and can be had in scantlings of all sizes : that from Nepal is of the finest possible quality and costs from Rs. 3

to Rs. 3-8 per cubic foot measured in work. Other timber, such as *jamun* and *shisham*, can be obtained at all times, but not in large quantities. Labour, on the other hand, is both scarce and expensive: skilled artizans are rarely to be found, and as a rule the masons, carpenters and blacksmiths of the district are but poor craftsmen.

Fauna. The wild animals of Kheri comprise an unusual variety of species, although they are practically the same as those of Bahraich and Gonda. Most species have been greatly reduced in numbers since annexation. The elephant is no longer found in the district, and the wild buffalo has disappeared, though formerly both are said to have been common. Tigers still exist, but they have fallen back before the spread of cultivation and are now confined to the less accessible jungles. For several years after the mutiny they were to be met with in the woods along the Kathna and were sometimes killed to the south of Muhamdi and Mitauli; they were also numerous in the old bed of the Chauka near Matera, and in the forests south of Aliganj. They have now, however, retired to the less accessible jungles of Khairigarh and Kukra, and their numbers have greatly decreased. Leopards are still fairly common in the jungle tracts and do much damage among the cattle. Other carnivora include the wolf, wild dog, jackal, hyæna and fox. Wild cattle are to be found in some of the forests, and the bear occurs in the north. Pig are common, especially in the jungles and their neighbourhoods. There are many varieties of stags and antelopes. Black-buck abound between the Gumti and the Kathna, and beyond the latter in Kukra and Bhur. They are met with, but in smaller numbers, on the west bank of the Gumti and near the Sukheta, and also to the north of the Chauka from Palia to Dhaurahra. Nilgai are common in most parts of the district, and especially along the banks of the Kauriala in Dhaurahra and Firozabad; and on the Chauka near Srinagar. They do great damage to the crops, and are protected by popular prejudice in jungles such as Kauria on the Ul, in the midst of high cultivation and dense population. Hog-deer are still met with in great numbers in the ravines and ancient watercourses now filled with lofty grass, which are found in Khairigarh and Kukra, and also in the

marshes and open wastes on either side of the Chauka: they used to abound on the Ul, but have long disappeared. Gond occur in diminishing numbers along the Chauka, and especially in the extreme north-west of Bhur. At one time they resorted to the grass jungles of Dhaurahra to the south of the Sukheta, but here they have practically become extinct: other species are the sambhar, barking-deer, and four-horned antelope, which are confined to the forest tracts. The chital or spotted deer are found everywhere in the Khairigarh and Bhira forests, and also along the banks of the Kathna.

Birds. The birds of Kheri are those common to northern India, but many species are found which are practically confined to the submontane tracts. No less than 353 varieties have been observed in the district, but many of these are very rare. Game birds are found in abundance. The great bustard used to be seen near Matera, but is now almost unknown. Florican were very common in former days in Bhur, but their numbers have been greatly reduced. Partridges, jungle-fowl, quail, sand-grouse, peacocks, plovers and pigeons of different varieties are all very numerous; but the black partridge are not so universally found as formerly, and have retired before the spread of cultivation and taken refuge in the forest parganas. Water fowl of all kinds, both migratory and otherwise, are probably more common in Kheri than in any other district of the provinces, owing to the comparative proximity of the great breeding grounds across the Himalayas. During the cold weather all the north Indian species of snipe, duck, teal, widgeon, pochards and geese visit the district, while enormous numbers of cranes, herons, ibis and other water birds remain here throughout the year. There is, however, no trade in birdskins, and the number of fowlers who derive their living from catching birds is small. The returns of the last census showed 180 persons employed as *shikaris*, falconers and birdcatchers, but the majority of these are engaged in the pursuit of fourfooted game.

Fish. The fisheries of the district are of some little importance, as the supply is abundant, and the rivers and lakes contain numbers of fish of all the usual varieties. The mahseer is to be found in all the larger rivers, while the other varieties are those common to the rest of Oudh. There is, however, no export trade, and the fish

are merely caught for home consumption or for hawking in the local bazars. The means employed are the rod and line, nets and wicker baskets or traps of various descriptions as well as the spear or *pachki*. There are but few professional fishermen, but numbers of Mallahs, Kahars and Musalmans resort to fishing during the seasons as a subsidiary means of subsistence.

With its wide areas of forest and its extensive grazing grounds, Kheri forms the chief cattle-breeding district in Oudh, and the animals raised here and exported to less favoured tracts constitute a valuable source of income. Large numbers of draught bullocks of superior quality are supplied to all the Oudh districts and also to those of the Gorakhpur division. There are said to be five distinct breeds of cattle in the district, but only one of these perhaps may be considered tolerably free from mixture with other strains. This is the Parehar, which derives its name from the tract of country so called between the Kathna and the Gumti rivers, comprising the parganas of Atwa-Piparia, Magdapur and Aurangabad. Popular belief ascribes the good quality of this breed to the effects of the water of the Kathna, along whose banks are the principal grazing-grounds. The villages most famous for their cattle are Nakara and Kalwa in Aurangabad. These animals are of moderate size, with a symmetrical body, fine and glossy hair, small ears, long and pointed horns, and the tail thin, tapering and small, and terminating with a luxuriant tuft of hair which is almost always white. The usual colours are grey white, or black with white patches. The bullocks, which have an irritable temper, are very fast and are said to be more enduring than animals of any other breed; they are especially good for draught work. Ordinary plough-bullocks cost from Rs. 30 to Rs. 80 a pair, but the better animals sometimes run up to Rs. 150. The second breed is the Bhur, which is found between the Sarju and Chauka rivers. They differ from the Parehar in their large size and coarser hair, while the bullocks are docile and comparatively slow movers. A pair of five-year old Bhur animals of average quality costs from Rs. 50 to Rs. 80. The Khairigarh breed, which occurs between the Sarju and the Mohan, can hardly be called a distinct type now, on account of the constant admixture of Bhur blood. Here and there, however, specimens of

Cattle

pure-bred Khairigarh animals are to be found, which differ from the typical Bhur bullocks in having finer and more pointed horns with their ends turned backwards, a larger size, finer hair, longer tail, broader forehead and chest, and generally a more symmetrical shape. They are faster than the Bhur and nearly as hot tempered as the Parehar. A pair of average bullocks, which are admirably suited for cart work, costs about Rs. 80 when five or six years of age; but superior animals run up to Rs. 200 a pair. Closely allied to the Khairigarh breed are those known as the Majhra Singahi, from the villages of those names in the extreme north-west of pargana Palia. In their features they generally resemble the Khairigarh animals, but are larger and enjoy the same degree of reputation as the Parehår for their pace. The price depends on the quality of the animals, and varies from Rs. 40 to Rs. 200 per pair. Lastly, there is the Dhaurahra breed, commonly found in the pargana of that name. This is the least valuable of all the breeds belonging to the district. The bullocks are of larger size than the others and have rough and coarse hair, a heavy dewlap, thick, but often small and blunt, horns, large bones, small but fleshy legs, with toes widely set apart. They are said to be good for heavy draught work, but are very slow movers with a sluggish, gentle temper. They are largely used for crossing with the animals of the Nanpara breed in Bahraich. There is ordinarily little care observed in breeding, and much might be effected by the selection of pure-bred bullocks and their location in the more important villages. The people of Parehar and of Majhra, however, who are more careful in this respect than other breeders, usually keep private bulls which have been selected as calves and are never broken to the plough. They accompany the herds to the pastures of Nepal, and while there the owners take all possible measures to prevent any breeding between their animals and those of the Malwara and Kanchanpur breeds of Nepal. The Dhaurahra cattle-owners, on the contrary, prefer the Malwara bulls as being superior to their own. The district pastures are generally insufficient for the number of cattle, and are annually diminishing in extent. Consequently the breeders depend mainly upon the grazing available in the jungles of Nepal adjoining the northern borders.

The best cows of all five breeds are driven thither and kept for eight months in the year, returning home for the rains. The male calves are left behind after the rains to be sold, when the herds return to the northern pastures. The congregation of herds of all breeds in Nepal is an undesirable factor in the situation, as there is a constant danger of cross-breeding. The grazing areas, too, and especially in the Parehar tract, have so decreased of late years that many of the herds are kept in the jungles throughout the year—a measure which is gradually reducing their numbers.

Cattle census. The first estimate of the number of cattle in the district was made in 1860, when it was calculated that there were altogether 517,600 animals. At the first regular settlement the number was returned at 598,674, which gave an average of 7·17 animals per plough. In August, 1899, a regular cattle census was taken, and the returns showed a total of 243,404 bullocks and bulls, and 42,101 male buffaloes, making altogether 285,505 plough-animals, from which it appears that the old settlement returns included cattle of all descriptions. A second census was carried out in the beginning of 1904, when the number of plough-animals was found to have risen to 335,268, including 56,302 buffaloes. This gave an average of somewhat over 2·5 animals per plough—a high proportion, which compares favourably with the other Oudh districts. Cows numbered 344,996, cow buffaloes 70,588, and young stock 291,289—all of which show a considerable increase over the returns of 1899. As is only to be expected, the number of cows is larger than in any other district of Oudh, and is only approached by Gonda and Bahraich. While kept on the Nepal borders the cows live on grazing only, salt being given once or twice a month. At other times cows kept for milking purposes are stall-fed on chopped straw, oil-cake, and occasional grain and bran. The yield of milk is small, and even in the case of stall-fed cows averages from half a *ser* to a *ser* daily. Most of it is made into *ghi*, of which large quantities are exported from this district.

Other animals. The other domestic animals are of little importance. The last returns show a total of 61,720 sheep, and 309,928 goats. Neither of these figures are remarkable. These animals are kept for food, for the sake of their wool and hair, which is made

into blankets and felts, and for penning on the land. There is practically no horse-breeding in the district. The census of 1904 showed a total of 17,739 horses and ponies—a high figure for Oudh; but the majority of these are small animals of an inferior description, used for carrying grain and similar purposes. There were fewer donkeys and camels than in any other part of Oudh. The only other noticeable feature of the census was the number of carts, amounting to 25,552—an unusually high figure for this part of the province. These vehicles are of the ordinary description for the most part; but there are large numbers of the lighter carts known as *adha* and *rath*, as in Hardoi. These latter varieties are generally drawn by the Parehar and superior breeds of bullocks.

Cattle disease.

The district is at all times subject to epidemics of cattle disease, which carry off large numbers of animals. The returns are in all cases unreliable, and this is particularly so in Kheri, as the pastures are in the most inaccessible tracts of the district. It is generally stated by the people that disease was unknown before annexation, although this appears incredible. The popular belief is probably due to the fact that no violent epidemics were remembered of equal intensity to that of 1871, when it was calculated that about one-fourth of the whole cattle stock of the district perished. The commonest forms of disease appear to be rinderpest, locally known as *pokna* or *rez*, foot-and-mouth disease or *khurha*, that known as *ghatarua*, which has been diagnosed as *hemorrhagic septicæmia*, and may be briefly called sore-throat and poisoning from grazing on rank grass and dangerous plants in the marshes, which results in a malady called by the natives *chaundhiana*. Anthrax does not appear to be common in this district. Rinderpest was very virulent in 1895; but since that time there have been no bad epidemics—a phenomenon which has been observed in almost all districts of the province. In order to check the spread of this cattle disease the services of a civil veterinary assistant have been placed at the disposal of the district board.

Climate.

The nature of the climate varies with the locality. To the south of the Ul river, which generally forms the dividing line, the country resembles that of the adjoining districts of Sitapur and Shahjahanpur; while to the north, where the land is traversed

by numerous rivers and covered by wide stretches of forests, it is the most unhealthy part of Oudh. The climate is on all sides admitted to have improved somewhat since the first regular settlement; but deadly fevers are still endemic, the water is bad, and from time to time violent outbreaks of cholera almost depopulate large areas. The variation in the conditions seems chiefly to depend on the level, as in the upland tracts sickness is not usually prevalent, but in the lowlands, where large areas are under water for several months of the year, malaria is very prevalent; this is also the case in the forests, especially at the end of the rains. Another unhealthy season in the north is the hot weather, when the water is unusually poisonous. There can be no doubt that the disappearance of jungle and waste land before an advancing population will to some extent mitigate the rigour of the climate in the north of the district; but progress will necessarily be slow. There are no regular meteorological stations in the district; but on the whole it may be said that the heat of Kheri is less than that of the adjoining parts of Oudh. Records taken in former years show that the thermometer seldom registers over 100°, and that the mean annual temperature of Lakhimpur is about 79°. May and June are the hottest months and the mean temperature is about 89° and 91° respectively. The cold weather lasts longer than in the southern districts, and the average temperature from the beginning of October to the end of March is not more than 72°. During the winter months the nights are very cold and foggy, and remain cool till late in the spring, during which period there is a heavy fall of dew. Frosts frequently occur and are often severe in the open tracts. The prevailing winds are westerly, they begin in March and usually blow strongly in April and May, becoming excessively hot till the approach of the monsoon. Northerly winds also often occur in the parts beyond the Sarda.

Rainfall. The rainfall of the district is above the average of the province. This is due to the proximity of the Nepal hills and to the cold winds that blow from the north, and also to the vast areas under forest and jungle. Records of the rainfall are extant from 1865, but up to 1870 observations were only taken at the district headquarters. In the latter year rain-gauges were also

established at Muhamdi and Gola, but that at the latter place was transferred to Nighasan in 1876. The average annual rainfall from 1870 to 1904 for the whole district was 45·9 inches. There are considerable local variations, as more rain falls in the northern parganas and in the forest tract than elsewhere. The average for Nighasan is 48·5 inches; at Lakhimpur the fall closely approximates to the general average, the mean annual amount since 1865 being 45·24 inches; while the Muhamdi tahsil is the driest, having an average fall of 43·45 inches. The district differs from those of southern Oudh, in that a considerable winter rainfall may generally be expected; and frequently showers occur in months of the year which are usually dry elsewhere. The annual variations are remarkably large. On eleven occasions since 1870 the total has exceeded 50 inches: the wettest year on record being 1871, when the average for the whole district was 70·45 inches and nearly 80 inches fell at Gola. In 1879 the total average was 64·43 inches; but whereas less than 50 inches fell at Kheri, Muhamdi recorded no less than 76·6 inches, which was far the greatest amount ever registered in that tahsil. From 1889 to 1894 the fall was considerably in excess of the average: this series of wet years culminated in 1894, when the mean total for the whole district was 69·82 inches, the headquarters tahsil receiving 77·3 inches. The result was a great deterioration of the lowlying tracts as the soil became waterlogged. It was remedied, however, by the dry seasons of the three ensuing years, when the fall was considerably below the average. The driest year on record was 1880, when the Nighasan tahsil received less than 15·4 inches, the average for the whole district being 24·4 inches. The only other years with less than 30 inches of rain were 1873, 1881 and 1883. In 1887, a year of famine, the average was over 31 inches; but the fall was very unseasonable. The same thing happened in 1896, although the defect in the rainfall was very small, the average for the district being as much as 41·17 inches. As elsewhere, it has been observed in this district that famine does not necessarily result so much from deficient rainfall as from an early cessation of the monsoon, which prevents the kharif harvest from attaining maturity, and also causes a contraction of the area sown for the winter crops.

With its bad reputation for unhealthiness, it is only to be expected that the death-rate should be higher in Kheri than in many other parts of Oudh. At the same time it is less than in the adjoining district of Bahraich, where the physical conditions are very similar. According to the returns, the death-rate from 1871 to 1880 was only 23·28 per mille; but this was undoubtedly too low and may be ascribed to a defective system of record. For the following decade the average was 30·09, and from 1891 to 1900 it was as much as 36·37 per mille as against 37·47 for the same period in Bahraich. The highest rate ever recorded was that of 1894, an abnormally wet year, when it rose to 53·15 per mille, and the lowest in 1901, when it was only 28·9. The birth-rate, on the other hand, generally exceeds that of deaths by a considerable margin. From 1891 to 1900 the average was 40·09 per mille, and since the famine of 1897 up to 1904 it was no less than 48·09.* The general unhealthiness of the district is to some extent illustrated by the returns of the principal causes of death; and although these are seldom accurate, they show very clearly the relative position of the prevailing diseases.† Health.

By far the most common is fever, which is everywhere prevalent, but especially in the forest tracts. In the police circles of Palia, Bhira and Nighasan it is especially fatal, and the death-rate in these three circles is far higher than in other parts. Fever reaches its maximum in the months of August, September, and October, and attacks natives and Europeans alike. The inhabitants ascribe the prevalence of fever and of the resultant bowel complaints in a large measure to the petroleum or liquid bitumen which is frequently found floating on the surface of the well water. The returns from 1871 to 1901 show that out of the total number of deaths recorded, no less than 84·5 per cent. were ascribed to fever, and in some years the proportion is very much higher. Fever.

The district is from time to time visited by severe epidemics of cholera. The early records are unreliable; but from 1871 to 1880 the annual mortality was 865, more than half the deaths occurring in the last year alone. In the following decade there Cholera.

* Appendix, Table III. | † Appendix, Table IV.

were severe outbreaks in 1882 and 1883, but these were altogether eclipsed by the great epidemic of 1890, when over 11,500 persons died of this disease. The annual average for the ten years amounted to 2,252. From 1891 to 1900 cholera was always present in the district; but the worst epidemics were those of 1892 and 1894, which together carried off over 11,000 persons. In only three years since 1871 have the number of deaths from this cause been under 100.

Small-pox

Small-pox was formerly very prevalent in this district, but of late years has greatly declined in intensity, and in 1900 the returns were for the first time on record blank. From 1871 to 1880 the average mortality was 1,113 annually; there were no exceptional epidemics, and the disease appeared constantly every year. During the following ten years the average was very much higher, being nearly 2,000 a year; but in this case the mortality was due chiefly to the outbreaks in 1883, 1884 and 1888. Since that time there have been no similar epidemics, although in 1893 and 1897 the number of deaths was over 1,000. The improvement that has taken place in this connection can only be ascribed to the spread of vaccination. Preventive measures were first adopted in 1870; but for the next twenty years very little progress was made, the average number of vaccinations being less than 2,500 annually. In 1890, however, a rapid improvement was observed, no less than 6,536 persons being vaccinated, while two years later the number had more than doubled, and in 1894 it rose to over 27,500. During the next ten years the number rose steadily, the annual average for the decade being 30,200, while in 1901 the number of successful primary vaccinations was over 36,000. The result is that the district is now better protected than many other parts of Oudh, and nearly 22 per cent. of the population have been vaccinated—a figure which is only surpassed in Sitapur, Hardoi and Lucknow. The vaccination establishment consists of an assistant superintendent and 22 vaccinators under the charge of the civil surgeon. The cost, which amounts to some Rs. 2,250 annually, is mainly met by the district board, while contributions are also made by taluqdars and the towns of Lakhimpur and Muhamdi.

The district remained free from plague for a longer period than any other part of Oudh, and up to the present the ravages of this disease have been very slight. The first outbreak occurred in November 1903, when there were four deaths, the infection having been carried from the Sitapur district. There were only six deaths in the following month, while in January 1904 there was a slight increase, and in the next month a few cases occurred at Lakhimpur, Muhamdi, Kheri, Palia and Maikalganj; but the death-rate fell off in March, and by May the district was entirely free. **Plague.**

The first statistics of infirmities were collected at the census of 1881. The returns then showed 104 lunatics, 3,215 blind persons, 940 deaf-mutes, and 329 lepers. These figures were, it would seem, only approximately accurate, for at the following census there were considerable variations. The number of insane persons fell to 80, of blind persons to 2,549, and of lepers to 239, while deaf-mutes increased to 1,080. In 1901 there was a general decrease, save in the case of insanity, 141 persons being thus afflicted. Lepers numbered 174, a far lower figure than in any other part of Oudh. Only 1,418 persons were blind, again a very insignificant number, the decrease being probably due to the great disappearance of small-pox and the spread of vaccination. Ophthalmic disorders are, however, fairly prevalent, as both ophthalmia and conjunctivitis are common during the summer months. In the case of deaf-mutes the decline was most remarkable, the total number of afflicted persons being 295, in striking contrast to the neighbouring districts of Oudh and especially those beyond the Ghagra. It would seem that goitre is not so prevalent in this district as in those to the east, and this appears to be also the case in Pilibhit, Naini Tal and the other other submontane districts further west. Such cases as occur are confined to the north of the district and especially to the immediate neighbourhood of the Chauka, the water of which river is supposed to cause this disease. The total number of persons afflicted under all heads was only 2,028, which is less by one-third than the general average for Oudh. **Infirmities.**

CHAPTER II.

AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

KHERI has at all times been the most backward district of Oudh, a necessary result of its geographical position. With an unhealthy climate, an unusually large proportion of forest, and wide tracts of land which are in the highest degree precarious, it is only to be expected that the cultivated area should be small and fluctuating. To these causes must be added the difficulty of obtaining cultivators in sufficient numbers, with the resultant effects of low and favoured rents and the absence of competition to induce any unusual effort to obtain more from the soil than is sufficient for bare existence. On the other hand there has been much improvement since the annexation of Oudh. From 1859, when order had been restored after the mutiny, steady progress has been maintained, although checked from time to time by adverse seasons and other calamities such as floods and epidemics among men and beasts. The first records of cultivation were those of the revenue survey of 1865, when the area under the plough was 793,942 acres or 53 per cent. of the whole, excluding the reserved forests and the jungle grants. A partial resurvey was made ten years later and it was then observed that in all of the eight parganas so treated, except Bhur, there had been a decrease of cultivation, owing to severe epidemics and various causes, and that the cultivated area was only 778,615 acres or 51 per cent. It was considered probable that the decline had been really much greater, as in several parganas which were left untouched the loss of cattle in 1871 had been very severe and the exodus of cultivators no less extensive. Annual returns were not prepared till 1885; and it was then ascertained that the district had fully recovered, for no less than 826,974 acres were under the plough. This was, however, an abnormal season, as the average area for the ten years ending in 1893 was 807,750 acres, although in the last half of the decade

Cultivated area.

the district was in a more flourishing condition than ever previously, and in 1892 the cultivated area amounted to nearly 840,000 acres. From 1893 there was a marked decline owing first to a succession of exceptionally wet seasons, and then to the famine of 1896-97, when no more than 716,809 acres were under the plough. The next two years were occupied by the survey and no returns are available; but in 1900 the recovery was fairly established and in the following year the increase in cultivation was no less than 90,000 acres. Thus, whereas the average from 1894 to 1897 inclusive was only 751,700, from 1900 to 1904 it was no less than 842,000 acres, the highest figure on record being reached in the last year, when 54 per cent. of the land, excluding the forest area, was cultivated. If the proportion does not appear much greater than that attained in 1865, it must be remembered that the total area has been very largely swelled by the resumption of jungle grants, the addition during the forty years being over 1,32,000 acres, almost all of which is still uncultivated, so that the development of the more settled portions has really been very remarkable.

Local variations. The proportion varies greatly in different parts of the district. At the first regular settlement the average for the headquarters tahsil was 52 per cent., for Muhamdi 50 per cent. and for Nighasan 44 per cent. The highest rate was observed in the Kheri pargana, followed by Magdapur, Paila and Firozabad; and the lowest in Khairigarh, Kukra-Mailani and Palia, which have the greatest proportion of forest. The relative position of the various parganas has undergone but little change in subsequent years. The Lakhimpur tahsil in 1904 had 57 per cent. cultivated, while in Muhamdi the average had risen to 61 per cent. and in Nighasan the change was very small, only 45 per cent. of the area being under the plough. Pargana Kheri easily maintained the foremost place with over 72 per cent., and next came Paila and the lighter soils of Muhamdi. The least developed tracts were the same as before, Palia showing less than 15 per cent. under tillage.

Culturable waste. The area classed as culturable at the first survey, in addition to the land actually bearing crops, was 522,672 acres or 35 per cent. of the whole. The term is a vague one, and at different times has had different significations. It now includes the grove area, to

which reference has been made in the preceding chapter, fallow, both old and new, and culturable waste, as well as land prepared for sugarcane. The last in 1904 covered 5,356 acres, and the difference in quality between this and the uncultivated waste illustrates the comprehensive character of the general heading. Fallow and waste together amounted in 1904 to 534,788 acres or 3·28 per cent. of the whole area, excluding the forests, as before. A large proportion of this is undoubtedly too poor ever to repay the cost of tillage. Old fallow, 116,565 acres, is not much better than a considerable portion of the culturable waste, and the same may be said in this district of the bulk of the new fallow, 104,166 acres. The presence of so large an area of land temporarily abandoned is due to the general style of cultivation in the district. In many parts, it is true, the tenants find it necessary to allow the land to lie waste for a year or two, but more often its existence is due to the casual character of the tillage, which fluctuates to an extraordinary extent in the northern parganas. Half the fallow of each kind is to be found in the Nighasan tahsil and the bulk of the remainder in the tract between the Chauka and the Ul. In the southern and more settled parganas there is but little, and here the culturable waste is almost all jungle which has not yet been cleared—a very different type of waste from the broad expanses of open grass land that are so frequently to be seen in the north. Such land can, and probably will, to some extent be brought under cultivation. Since the last settlement the area has been largely reduced, while the fallow area has remained practically constant. The reduction of the former has been some 48,000 acres, cultivated within recent years; while the rest of the new cultivation has come for the most part out of the land classed as unculturable—a striking illustration of the general looseness of the classification of untilled areas.

Soils.

The soils in this district are generally the same as in the rest of northern Oudh: sandy *bhur* in the more elevated portions and along the high banks of the rivers; loam or *dumat* in the level uplands; and *matiar* or clay in the depressions. All these, however, are capable of great variations: there is for instance a great difference between the loam left as an alluvial deposit by the Chauka after the annual floods and the light but fertile soil

which is called by the same name in the Kheri pargana and elsewhere. The former is often distinguished, as in Sitapur, by the name of *pan;* it yields fine crops for a short time, but is quickly exhausted. Another peculiar soil is that known as *tapar*, which is found beyond the Chauka: it is of a light gritty description and of very poor productive power. It is locally classed as *bhur*, but is altogether different from the soil generally known by that name. Clay again varies, from the stiff unworkable variety in which rice can alone be grown, and that after abundant rain, to a much more tractable kind in Nighasan and Khairigarh, where it is held in high esteem. At the first regular settlement the assessed area was divided into three classes of soil; but the first was all loam, the second clay, and the third *bhur* including *tapar*. The percentages were 58, 23 and 19 respectively, but the classification was almost too rough to be of great use. First class soil also included manured lands, which amounted to 10 per cent., and probably corresponded with what is now styled *goind*, the highly cultivated lands in the immediate vicinity of the homestead. At the last settlement the conventional and natural classifications were used conjointly. A separate class was allotted to both *goind* and *bhur;* but loam was united with *manjhar*, and clay with *palo*, the usual term for outlying and casual cultivation. The result of this classification was that *goind* occupied 10·9 per cent., *dumat* and *manjhar* 57·2 per cent., *matiar* and *palo* 24·3 per cent., and *bhur* 7·6 per cent. of the cultivated area. There are naturally great variations in the several proportions in different parts of the district, and the predominating soils in the various parganas are pointed out in the separate articles at the end of this volume. Generally speaking, it may be said that most of the *bhur* is in the Muhamdi tahsil; clay is always to be found in the depressions, especially in Paila, Kukra, along the Shahjahanpur border, the Kunawat tract in Khairigarh, and along the Jamwari in Kheri; and the highest percentage of *goind* is to be found in Kheri, Haidarabad, and the better portions of the Muhamdi tahsil.

Precarious tracts.

Generally it may be asserted that in this part of the province floods rather than drought are chiefly to be feared, and their occurrence causes more distress than famine. A series of wet

years must necessarily affect the lowlying tracts and result in saturation, while a subsequent drought, as was the case in 1896, will be actually beneficial. These inundations are very destructive in almost the whole river tract, and especially in Dhaurahra, Firozabad and Srinagar along the course of the Chauka. Saturation is also liable to occur in the western portions of Muhamdi and Pasgawan beyond the Gumti, the north of Aurangabad where there is a large extent of lowlying swamp, Paila and the south of Haidarabad, in which the jhils are apt to overflow and damage the neighbouring fields, the east of Kukra-Mailani, and along the natural drainage lines in Kasta. Drought, on the other hand, may always be expected to affect the trans-Gumti tract and the Parehar between the Gumti and the Kathna, while the central portion between the latter river and the Ul will suffer to a less extent, the damage being mainly confined to those parts usually irrigated from tanks. West of the Kathna the land is for the most part high and sandy and the sub-soil is too light to admit of the construction of unprotected wells; but in times of scarcity the loss can be minimised in the more favourably situated villages by rendering prompt assistance in well construction. These conclusions are amply borne out by a consideration of the effects on this district of the droughts of 1877 and 1886 which resulted in so great a distress elsewhere.

Cultivation.

The style of cultivation to be seen in this district is as varied as the parganas themselves. Nowhere, indeed, do we find that careful and minute tillage which characterises the highly developed districts of central and southern Oudh; but there is a vast difference between the standard of husbandry in pargana Kheri, for instance, and in the parts beyond the Chauka. In the more settled parganas, where numbers of Kurmis and other good tenants are to be found, the cultivation is fair and sometimes good; but in the north the large holdings, the unhealthy climate and the precariousness arising from floods and wild animals result in careless and slovenly tillage. An unusually large proportion of the land is held by non-resident tenants, and the result of this is at once apparent. Manure is hardly ever used in the northern parganas, and indeed is scarcely needed owing to the universal practice of leaving the land fallow for long periods. South of the

Ul much of the land is very well manured, especially in the sugar-producing parganas of Kheri, Haidarabad, Paila and Muhamdi, where the capacity of the soil has been so improved by constant high cultivation that it is now equal to almost any in Oudh. But elsewhere the general backwardness of Kheri is illustrated by the prevalence of mixed crops and the absence of any regular system of rotation.

Harvests. There are the usual harvests called by the usual names, the kharif or autumn, the rabi or spring, and the zaid or additional harvest. The last is of very little importance in this district, and for the three years ending 1904 the average area sown in this harvest was only 2,349 acres. Two-thirds of this was in the Nighasan tahsil and the bulk of the remainder in the Bhur and Srinagar parganas of Lakhimpur. Almost the whole area is taken up by melons and vegetables. The former are very largely grown in the Firozabad, Dhaurahra and Nighasan parganas, this crop being always found in the alluvial soil near the rivers. The early millet, known as sanwan, which is fairly common in Sitapur, is practically unknown in this district. The relative position of the kharif and rabi harvests varies according to the season, especially in the eastern and northern parganas, where, if the floods are not excessive, valuable kharif crops are raised; while the rabi, though less precarious, is always of an inferior quality. At the first regular settlement the kharif covered 429,530 acres or 60·8 per cent. of the cultivation, as against 320,219 acres or 45·3, per cent. occupied by the rabi. For the five years preceding the second settlement the proportions were 70·7 and 54·5 per cent. respectively, and in the year of settlement the difference was very much more marked. The averages for the four years ending in 1904 were 582,518 acres sown in the kharif, and 422,041 acres in the rabi harvest, the proportions being nearly 58 and 42 per cent. These figures are for the whole district, but in the Muhamdi tahsil the rabi actually exceeded the kharif by over 11,000 acres, while in Nighasan the latter covered more than double the area of the former—results which clearly illustrate the very different conditions prevailing in different parts of the district.

Double cropping.

The most noticeable feature in the recent history of agriculture in this district is the enormous development of the system of double-cropping, resulting from an increased revenue demand and the desire to obtain an increased produce from the land. At the first regular settlement only 43,750 acres or 6·1 per cent. of the land cultivated bore two crops in the year, but by 1885 the area so treated was no less than 151,441 acres or over 18 per cent. As in other cases the amount varies with the season, but the increase has, as a rule, been steadily maintained, and only in 1888 and 1900 did it fall short of this figure: in 1891 it reached the unusual amount of 249,344 acres. Altogether from 1884 to 1893 the average was 20 per cent. of the cultivation, and for the next ten years over 23 per cent. The amount varies greatly in different parts of the district; the highest proportion is to be found in the Nighasan tahsil, where a second crop is usually raised by sowing broadcast on the rice-fields, and it is much lower than elsewhere in the dry parganas of Muhamdi. The details for each pargana of the district in 1904 will be found in the appendix.*

Rice.

Rice is by far the most important crop in the district, and in each of the tahsils it occupies over 30 per cent. of the area cultivated in the kharif. As in Sitapur, there has been an enormous increase in the rice area since the first regular settlement, the acreage under this staple having almost doubled. Many different varieties of rice are grown, the species varying with the nature of the soil. In the lowlands *jarhan* rice is most common, but its cultivation is generally slovenly; transplantation is not generally practised, and the crop is consequently more uncertain than in other districts. Beyond the Chauka *jarhan* rice is almost invariably sown broadcast. Elsewhere the principal kind is that known as *anjana*, and this is very frequently mixed with kodon, apparently for the reason that one will succeed if the other fail, whatever be the nature of the season, wet or dry, while an average rainfall will give good yield from both. The two crops mixed are called *dhankudwa*, and the produce is generally ground together for home consumption. Some of the rice is of an excellent quality, and that grown round Aliganj in

* Appendix, Table V.

Bhur is especially famous. An excellent kind known as *karmand* is grown in small quantities in Oel, Paila and a few other places. The outturn in the lowlands depends on the nature of the floods, as the rice dies if the plant is entirely submerged for more than a few days; on the other hand, if the rains are late the area sown is much diminished, as rice is generally grown in clay lands which require to be moistened before they can be ploughed.

Other kharif crops.

Next to rice comes kodon, which is very largely grown in the Lakhimpur and Nighasan tahsils and there occupies on an average over 18 per cent. of the kharif harvest, although in Muhamdi it is cultivated to the extent of less than four per cent. Its place is there taken by the larger millets, bajra and juar, of which there is very little to be seen to the north of the Ul. The former is the more common, as it constitutes the staple crop in the *bhur* tracts of Muhamdi. The pulses, urd, mung and moth, are very extensively grown in Muhamdi and Lakhimpur, averaging about 21 and 17 per cent. respectively; but in Nighasan the area is much smaller, being little more than six per cent. of the kharif harvest. Another important kharif crop is maize, but its distribution is extremely irregular. There is hardly any in the Muhamdi tahsil, but it is extensively grown in the northern portion of Lakhimpur, while in Nighasan it occupies over 36 per cent. of the kharif area, there holding an even more prominent position than rice. It is chiefly grown in the drier parts of the lowlands, and in favourable seasons it does exceedingly well.

Sugarcane.

Probably the most valuable of all the kharif crops is sugarcane, which has long been cultivated to an extent that is surprisingly large for so backward a district. The cause of this lies partly in its vicinity to Shahjahanpur, the great sugar mart of eastern Rohilkhand. There is comparatively little cultivation in the Nighasan tahsil, but the averages for the three years ending 1904 were 9·21 per cent. of the kharif area in Lakhimpur and 11·08 per cent. in Muhamdi. The chief sugar-producing parganas are Muhamdi, Haidarabad, Kheri and Paila. The cane grown in the neighbourhood of Haidarabad is of a very superior quality and is in high demand for the manufacture of candy. The cane

is crushed in the villages and the produce usually sold in the form of *gur* at the Lakhimpur, Gola and Muhamdi markets.

There are no other kharif crops of any importance. Cotton is almost unknown in this district, except in the parganas of Muhamdi and Pasgawan. The Muraos and Kachhis keep a fairly large area under garden crops. These are of the usual varieties and include chillies in the north and the ordinary vegetables, spices and condiments found throughout Oudh. In Bhur, Srinagar, Paila and Nighasan turmeric is cultivated to a considerable extent, especially in the lighter soils; its culture is of comparatively recent introduction, but the crop is a profitable one, although the price has greatly fallen during the past thirty years. One of its chief advantages is that no animal will touch it, and consequently in Paila the turmeric fields alone require no fencing. Indigo was once tried in this district, but its cultivation has long been extinct; tea cultivation was also attempted by the grantees, but without success.

The rabi crops are practically the same as those prevailing throughout northern Oudh, but both cultivation and outturn are generally inferior. In all the tahsils of the district wheat heads the list. Sown alone, it averages 31 per cent. of the rabi harvest, while in combination with other crops it covers an additional 18 per cent. The area under pure wheat has largely increased of late years, but the practice of mixing crops is still eminently characteristic of the district and its cultivation. Wheat is sown in combination with barley, gram, peas and linseed, and these together cover almost the entire rabi area. Generally speaking, barley takes the place of wheat in the inferior soils and also in the partially cleared tracts, as this crop is not, when in the ear, so liable to the depredations of wild animals. It thus predominates in Aurangabad, Magdapur and Paila, but its cultivation has been very extensively replaced by that of wheat during recent years. Gram, which is largely grown as a second crop after rice, is extensively cultivated in the Muhamdi and Lakhimpur tahsils; but in Nighasan it is scarce, except in the pargana of Khairigarh. In Dhaurahra and Firozabad its place is taken by peas and masur; the latter is to be found in all the other parganas of the district, but the area under this crop is small except in Bhur and

Rabi crops.

Srinagar. In the lowlying tracts, linseed is also produced in considerable quantities, but elsewhere it is generally sown in combination with other staples. Mention should also be made of the rape crop, which is very popular throughout the Nighasan tahsil, where it covered nearly 12,000 acres in 1904; castor oil too is extensively grown in the south-eastern parganas of the same tahsil.

The other rabi crops are of very little importance, with the possible exception of tobacco, of which a considerable amount, of a very fair quality, is grown in the Nighasan tahsil and in parts of Srinagar. There is very little opium produced in Kheri; its cultivation was started after annexation, but was temporarily abandoned in 1876; its subsequent reintroduction has been attended with but poor results, and on an average little more than 1,500 acres are occupied by this crop. It is chiefly to be found in the Kurmi villages of the Kheri, Srinagar, Firozabad and Dhaurahra parganas.

Irrigation.

The area irrigated is always very small in proportion to the cultivation. Statistics of irrigation are always liable to be misleading, and this is especially the case in Kheri, for not only does the area vary greatly according to the nature of the season, but a large portion of the district has practically no need of irrigation. The whole of the Nighasan tahsil lies low, much of it being subject to inundation, so that artificial watering is neither necessary nor practicable. The same applies to the lowlying parganas of the Lakhimpur tahsil which come within the influence of Chauka, so that the proportion of irrgated to cultivated land gives no correct impression as to the state of affairs in those parts in which irrigation is regularly practised. To illustrate this it is merely necessary to look at the figures given in the appendix for the year 1904.* It will there be seen that the total irrigated area was 112,677 acres or 12·8 per cent. of the total cultivation; but in all tahsil Nighasan only 397 acres were irrigated, while in Kukra-Mailani, Bhur and Srinagar the amount was also very small. If these, however, be excluded, the proportion for the rest of the district was very nearly 23 per cent.—a figure which compares fairly closely with the results obtained for the same year in the neighbouring district of Sitapur. In the parganas of Pasgawan and Muhamdi the proportions were 31·6 and 32·9 per cent. respectively, which is well up to the general average for

* Appendix, Table, V

Oudh, not excluding the more highly-developed districts. On the other hand, it may be fairly asserted that even in the best parganas the character of the irrigation should not be measured by the area irrigated. Cultivation is far more slovenly than in the highly tilled districts and the holdings are far larger; for this reason, and also because of the general dependence of the cultivators on the winter rains, which are more reliable here than in southern Oudh by reason of the closer proximity of the hills, the fields which are recorded as irrigated seldom obtain more than one watering in the rabi harvest. Besides, irrigation from wells is both expensive and irregular by reason of the nature of the subsoil in most places, and the people assert that the water of the tanks is too cold for the crops, although this excuse appears a poor one.

Irrigated area.

Records of the area irrigated are available since the year 1885. They were also compiled at the first regular settlement; but the statistics were not very reliable owing to confusion between irrigated and irrigable land. It was then ascertained that 12 per cent. of the cultivated area was irrigated, and that 55 per cent. of this was supplied from wells and the rest from tanks and other sources. The proportion was then, as now, highest in the Muhamdi, Pasgawan and Paila parganas. From 1885 onwards the annual variations have been considerable. For the first ten years the average was 81,288 acres or 10·01 per cent. of the cultivation, but the total ranged from 99,650 acres or 12·44 per cent. in 1890 to only 48,620 acres or 6·08 per cent. in 1886. From 1895 to 1904 the recorded average was much lower, at any rate till 1897; there were no records prepared in 1898 and 1899 on account of the settlement, but in 1900 the total was much larger than ever before and the level then reached has been since maintained, although at the same time cultivation has been widely extended. The average for the first four years of the decade was no more than 21,917 acres, or 3·03 per cent. of the cultivated area, probably a lower figure than in any other part of the United Provinces; while for the four years ending with 1904 it was 100,413 acres or 11·9 per cent., indicating a resumption of normal conditions. The last year showed the greatest amount of irrigation ever recorded; but the cultivation had also reached a higher figure than in any previous year.

Sources of irrigation.

Water for irrigation is obtained from wells, tanks and to a very small extent from the minor streams. The large rivers are not employed at all for this purpose, owing to the nature of the country in their vicinity, as when it is not lowlying *tarai* it is usually high and sandy, and consequently beyond the reach of water. At the first regular settlement the areas irrigated from wells and other sources were approximately equal: the former predominated in the Muhamdi tahsil, and the latter in Lakhimpur, especially in the parganas of Kheri and Srinagar. Of recent years there has been a marked increase in the direction of well irrigation: this was strikingly illustrated at the time of the last assessment, when the area watered from wells was 57,381 acres and that irrigated from other sources only 16,351 acres. The average proportions for the three years ending in 1904 were 63·3 and 36·7 per cent. respectively. The change is an indication of improvement, for the tanks are an uncertain source of supply, failing when most required. In the Kheri and Paila parganas alone, in which there are many large sheets of water, do they provide water for a larger area than that irrigated by wells.

Wells.

In this district the vast majority of the wells are of the unprotected earthen type. Masonry wells are comparatively rare, except perhaps in the Kheri and Paila parganas; but their number appears to be slowly increasing. The earthen wells vary in character according to the locality and the depth at which water is found below the surface. This averages about 25 feet in the tract south of the Ul; but the variations are great, from 40 feet in Magdapur to ten feet in the depressions of Paila and elsewhere. The deep wells are large, and the water is usually raised by means of a *pur* or large leathern bucket drawn as a rule by four men; as in Sitapur, bullocks are less commonly employed. Such wells are locally known as *chaujania*, and are found in Muhamdi, Kasta, Kheri, Pasgawan and part of Paila. Elsewhere the *dhenkli* or pot and lever system is used, or else the double pot and pulley. The small wells last for a very short time owing to the friable nature of the subsoil; they will irrigate about two acres in a month and then fall in, and at all times much labour is expended in clearing out the sand from the bottom. In some cases they are supported by a lining of arhar stalks; but, even so, they will rarely last for a year.

Tanks.

In the case of tanks and jhils the water is raised in *beris* or wicker baskets by a series of lifts, the number varying with the height of the fields above the water. This method is generally in vogue throughout Oudh, and calls for no special mention. The labour is great and tedious, but the cost is reckoned on an average to be somewhat less than that of well irrigation. The same system is employed where the streams and watercourses are dammed, as is the case in parts of the Pasgawan, Paila, Kheri and Muhamdi parganas, and also in a few other places. The area thus irrigated is, however, very small, amounting altogether to less than 5,000 acres in 1904.

Famines.

Owing to its geographical position the district is not liable to suffer severely from famines. The rainfall is above the average for Oudh and never occurs in such defect as to cause the entire loss of a harvest. This is especially the case in the north of the district, and there in times of scarcity the partial failure of a crop is to some extent compensated by the work provided by the forest department, and is also mitigated by the fact that the population is to a large extent pastoral. In former years, however, considerable distress was experienced on account of the scarcity of grain as, owing to the inaccessibility of the tract, importation from abroad was practically impossible.

Early scarcities.

The records of early famines are very meagre. It is said that there was a severe distress in 1769, and again in the great famine year of 1783, when, according to tradition, a very heavy mortality occurred from starvation. No details are, however, available with regard to this famine, nor is anything known of that of 1837, in another year of drought. In more recent times there was scarcity in 1865, 1869 and 1874, caused on every occasion by deficiency of water. In 1873 there were no regular rains to the north of the Ul, and the rice crop was in most places a failure; while at Kheri itself the rainfall aggregated 29 inches, it is said that not more than 12 inches fell in the parganas of Khairigarh, Nighasan, Dhaurahra and Bhur. The people appear to have had considerable resources, but the trouble was caused by the shortness of the market, as grain was not obtainable at any price. The deficiency was met by importations from the southern parganas by the taluqdars. The rabi harvest in the north was

also a comparative failure, but south of the Ul it was fairly good. In January, 1874, the cheapest grain reached 18 *sers*—a price which at that time rendered distress unavoidable. The scarcity was most felt in the two months before the reaping of the rabi harvest; but the sparse population of the northern parganas simplified the question of supply and no marked result ensued from the failure of the crop from a single season.

Famine of 1877.

The total rainfall in 1877 was in marked defect, especially in the Nighasan tahsil, although the actual amount was large as compared with that of other districts. Good falls had occurred in the early months of the year, and from January to May the average for the whole district was eight inches. There was a fair fall in June, but very little in July and August, and in the latter months less than an inch fell in the Kheri tahsil and under three inches in Nighasan. September was practically rainless. No rain whatever was recorded at Kheri, while in Muhamdi there was only one, and in Nighasan two small showers. The average for the district from June to September was only 15·6 inches. Fair showers fell in October and again in December, which brought up the average for the whole year to 31·1 inches. The result was that west of the Kathna the kharif crop was an entire failure as the rain in the beginning of June was too early for the general sowings. East of the Kathna the fall was more favourable, but the crop did not average more than one-fourth of the normal. Prices consequently rose, and this result was heightened by the extensive exportations from the district which had been going on since the beginning of the year. From 27 *sers* in June wheat rose to 8·5 *sers* in September; it fell again during the next three months, but reached almost the same high point in January and February, after which the fair rabi harvest saved the situation. The price of wheat and barley remained fairly high throughout 1878, but at the same time was much lower than in the more distressed districts. Rice remained at a high level for a longer period and did not fall till the kharif harvest. The agriculturists of the district managed fairly well throughout the scarcity; but the labourers and those who lived on small fixed wages suffered to a considerable extent. At the same time the distress was insignificant as compared with that in Sitapur and Hardoi,

and only a small measure of relief was found necessary. Poor-houses were opened in different places and altogether a sum of Rs. 3,022 was thus expended, nearly the whole of this being met from private subscriptions. Work was provided on some of the roads; but the total number of people employed barely amounted to 3,000. These works were confined to the improvement of the roads from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur and from Gola to Aliganj. The land revenue was for the most part collected in full, and the outstanding demand of Rs. 29,809 was realized in the following year. The bulk of this balance was either nominal or else carried over from the preceding year: the real balance for 1877-78 being only Rs. 1,700.

The subsequent harvests were fairly consistently good for a series of years after this famine and no scarcity occurred in the district till 1896. Prior to this, however, there had been a succession of seasons with an unusually heavy rainfall, which had caused much deterioration in the lowlying tracts. This fact accounted for the decline in cultivation in the riverain parganas and also in the *bhur* area where the sandy soil suffered from the constant moisture much in the same way as the parganas along the Gumti in Sitapur. . Consequently the resources of the people were reduced to a low ebb and they were from the first unable to withstand the effects of the ensuing drought.

Famine of 1896.

The failure of the rains in 1896 reduced the cultivated area all over the district. There was considerable distress in the trans-Gumti and Parehar tracts, but in the parganas to the north of the Ul the dryness of the season improved the condition of the saturated land and was followed by an extension of cultivation. The rainfall in 1896 was somewhat less than the average, but to no unusual extent. In June the district received 7·92 inches, the fall being greatest in the Nighasan tahsil; for July the total was 10·2 inches, which was somewhat less than the normal, but in August there was a generally good rain, the average being 20 inches. The fall then ceased, and there was practically no rain in September and October. The result was that the kharif harvest was much better than in the adjoining districts and was estimated at nearly three-fourths of the average: and the distress in Kheri was chiefly caused by the high prices prevailing

elsewhere. The Muhamdi tahsil was far more affected than other parts, for maize, which did well in the other subdivisions of the district, is hardly grown there at all; juar and bajra yielded only half the normal outturn, and rice gave even worse results. The failure of the rains in the autumn caused a very serious contraction of the rabi area, which was only 50 per cent. of the normal in Muhamdi and less than 60 per cent. over the whole district. No necessity was found, however, for relief works till the end of February 1897, and the numbers were at no time great. The only works undertaken were the improvement of the roads from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur, from Muhamdi to Aurangabad, and from Gola to Kukra, while the total sum expended did not exceed Rs. 6,500. In addition to these, however, poor-houses were maintained from the end of October and small sums were distributed in gratuitous relief and on minor village works. The works on the roads were closed in April, but reopened after the rabi harvest and continued till the end of August, when all necessity for further relief was at an end.

Prices.

The history of prices is intimately connected with that of famines, although their rise and fall in past years have constantly been influenced by other causes. Past records show that the average rates for Kheri have been almost always lower than those prevailing in other parts of Oudh—a phenomenon which is in some measure due to the greater scarcity of money, and also to the comparative absence of means of communication facilitating an export trade. In the early years of the British administration of Oudh it was common to find prices affected by scarcity prevailing elsewhere, at least in those districts from which grain could be exported by river or otherwise. The Chauka and Kauriala were no doubt used to some considerable extent for the conveyance of surplus produce to the markets of Bihar; but owing to the lack of internal communications the tracts tapped by these channels were but a small portion of the district. The official returns represent the average of the recorded prices prevailing at the tahsíl headquarters of Lakhimpur, Gola and Muhamdi; and these are deceptive because they represent the rates of a mere corner of the district and have practically no connection with those of the more inaccessible parganas, although

no doubt the export trade from the riverain tracts tended to restore the balance. The construction of the railway, however, whereby the most fertile portions were brought under external influences, has brought about a great change, to which the improvement of the roads has also contributed its share. The surplus grain is now conveyed out of the district with comparative ease, with the result that there is a constantly-increasing tendency for Kheri prices to approach closer to the general average for Oudh: provided of course that the seasonal conditions be normal. This seldom happens in actual practice throughout the province, and even in this district alone it is almost impossible to find years in which the harvests are of equal proportionate value in all parts. In dry years the north gains and the south loses; while in wet seasons the reverse is the case.

The general rise.

The records cannot, therefore, be accepted as altogether correct, but they are sufficiently accurate to illustrate the general economic development since annexation. Famines and scarcities, not only those of 1878 and 1897, upset the averages to a considerable extent, but a clearer idea will be obtained by taking the average of periods of five or more years. From 1861 to 1875 prices were generally low and in spite of temporary fluctuations they had a constant tendency to maintain a low level. Common rice averaged 18·55 standard *sers* to the rupee, the lowest figures being 24·05 *sers* in 1875 and 23·04 *sers* in 1862, a year of unusual plenty. Wheat averaged 23·97 *sers*, being over 31 *sers* in 1862 and 1871; barley 36·68 *sers;* juar 33·07 *sers;* bajra 30·68 *sers;* and gram 24·89 *sers*. About the middle of this period prices had a tendency to rise, but they returned to their former position at the end, and 1876 was a year of extraordinarily low rates. In spite of this, however, there was a marked rise between 1876 and 1885, in large measure due to the famine, which not only raised prices at home, but probably caused a strong external demand and aroused the Kheri farmers to a sense of the possibility of a large export trade. The averages for this decade were 15·87 *sers* for rice, 22 *sers* for wheat, 32·85 *sers* for barley, 34·68 *sers* for juar, 29·54 *sers* for bajra, and 24·17 *sers* for gram. The rise was great, even if the abnormal rates of 1878 be excluded: in that year rice, juar and bajra reached the highest points ever recorded, before or

since—a fact which proves that the distress in this district must have been very real. In 1886 or thereabouts prices rose throughout Oudh, and Kheri exhibited no exception to the general rule. This was due to external causes and not to adverse seasons, for the harvests were generally good till 1891 and the ensuing series of wet years which culminated in the drought of 1896. From 1886 to 1890 the averages recorded were 14·88 *sers* for rice, 18·3 *sers* for wheat, 26·37 *sers* for barley, 24·67 *sers* for juar, 22·48 *sers* for bajra, and 23·71 *sers* for gram. From 1891 to 1900 prices ranged higher than at any other period in the history of the district. The upward tendency was accelerated by bad harvests and declining cultivation. The district soon recovered from the famine, but in 1900 prices were almost as high as they had ever been. During the decade rice averaged 12·48 *sers*, wheat 14·5 *sers*, barley 22·51 *sers*, juar 24·55 *sers*, bajra 19·83 *sers*, and gram 17·92 *sers*. During the succeeding four years prices have remained high, but with a marked tendency to fall, and in 1904 they had returned to the level of 1891: it is impossible to prophesy, however, as to future movements; but there appears no probability of a return to the low rates prevailing before 1886. The question is one of extreme importance in this district, owing to the large area held on grain-rents: continual high prices tend to effect a revolution in the rental system, and much is already to be ascribed to a general average increase of some 42·5 per cent. between 1861 and 1901.

Wages.

The wages of labour are generally very low in this district and do not appear to have risen concurrently with prices. The chief reason for this is that agricultural labour is still paid either wholly or partly in grain, and consequently the money value of the payment keeps pace with the state of the market. There is no large industrial population and the artisans, such as smiths and carpenters, are for the most part dependents of the landlords and receive grants of land as remuneration, or else are numbered among the village servants and are paid in grain at harvest. In the towns the various craftsmen are paid according to their skill; but as a rule the average rate of three or four annas a day which prevailed in 1875 is not exceeded now. Agricultural labourers, when paid in cash, generally obtain two annas a day, which is somewhat higher than the old rate; but the grain

wage of 1½ *sers* daily with a blanket annually is still the general rule. Reaping is paid by a share of the crop gathered, usually one heap in twenty. Digging is treated as piece work in most cases, and when waste land is broken up the common rate ranges from two to three *bighas* for a rupee, according to the nature of the soil. Ordinarily the method of payment depends on the rental system, cash wages being only found in cash-rented lands, while elsewhere wages are almost, without exception, paid in kind.

Weights and measures. The weights and measures in common use in the district are very variable, differing from pargana to pargana and often from village to village. Weights in some respects differ from those prevailing in the rest of Oudh. The commonest measure is, as usual, the *panseri*, but a distinction is here made between the *pakki* and *kachchi panseri*. The latter is always five local or *kachcha sers*, while the former varies: in the Lakhimpur and Nighasan tahsils it is equivalent to 2·25 standard *sers*; but in Muhamdi it varies from 10 *kachcha sers* in the Muhamdi and Atwa Piparia parganas to 15 such *sers* in the other parts of the tahsil. The local *sers* vary greatly, and so consequently does the *panseri*. The latter is derived theoretically from so many *gandas*, each of which consists of four units, the so-called *maddushahi* pice of 270 grains each or, according to the mode of reckoning in Bahraich, of six units, which in this case would be current rupees of 180 grains apiece. The *ganda* is not, however, generally known in this district, although many of the prevailing *panseris* are undoubtedly derived from this source. Such are the *panseris* of 32,400 grains or 30 *gandas* found in the Kheri and Pasgawan parganas; of 37,800 grains or 38 *gandas* in Palia and the parts of Nighasan about Majhgain; of 35,100 grains or 30½ *gandas* in Bhur, Dhaurahra, part of Srinagar and the Simra tract of Nighasan; and probably that of 34,200 grains or roughly 31½ *gandas* which is used in Firozabad and part of Srinagar. The other *panseris* are peculiar, as they are admittedly derived not from the *ganda* at all, but from the *taka* or double pice—a unit that is generally recognised in Rohilkhand. This *taka* is commonly considered as half a *ganda*, but actually the weight is 480 grains. The commonest measure in the district is the *kachcha*

panseri of 36,000 grains, or 75 *takas*, giving a *kachcha ser* of 40 *tolas*, or exactly half the standard weight. This is generally used in Kasta, Haidarabad, Magdapur, Paila, Kukra, part of Srinagar, Nighasan and Khairigarh. In Aurangabad the *panseri* is 33,300 grains or roughly 70 *takas*; in Muhamdi it is larger, being 40,800 grains or 85 *takas*; and in Atwa Piparia the local standard is even higher, as the *panseri* there contains 105 *takas*, the *kachcha ser* being 56 *tolas*. For weighing sugar and tobacco a large *pakka ser* is generally employed. This as a rule weighs 104 *tolas*, as in Shahjahanpur: its existence is due to the allowance made for moisture in the material.

Land measures are equally variable. The standard *bigha* of 3,025 square yards is generally recognised, but every pargana and almost every village has its own local or *kachcha bigha*. The unit is everywhere the *kasi* or double pace, and this as the saying goes, depends on the length of the patwari's foot. Two *kasis* make a *gatha*, and ten *gathas* are the side of a *kachcha bigha*. Where rents are paid in cash, it is obviously to the landlord's advantage to have the *bigha* as small as possible, and then the unit is known as the *jamai kasi*. In grain-rented lands there is no such inducement to lessen the standard, and consequently a larger measure is employed. The principle is further illustrated by the use of a smaller *bigha* for sugarcane and garden crops than for any others. The commonest *bigha* in this district has a side of 27·5 yards, or half that of the standard measure: in this case the *kasi* is 49·5 inches, and four *kachcha bighas* go to a standard *bigha* and 6·4 to the acre. This measure generally prevails in the more highly cultivated parts of the district, but in the less developed tracts the *bigha* is larger and only five go to an acre. Generally it may be said that a *bigha* is never less than ·15,625 and never more than ·2 of an acre. It should be remembered that in former days it was to the interest of both landlord and tenant to have as large a *bigha* as possible in order to make the rent-roll appear small; but after annexation the taluqdar took the place before occupied by the Government, and consequently desired to reduce the local standard. This resulted in much litigation, the landlords in one instance going so far as to assert the existence of the *bawan kasi* for

sugarcane fields—a measure which is only one-tenth of an acre.

The cultivators of Kheri are probably no less burdened with debt than their neighbours in the adjoining districts of Sitapur and Hardoi. Owing to their improvidence and other causes they are frequently compelled to borrow grain at seed-time, when it is dearest, and the loan is repaid at harvest, when prices are low. The repayment is made in kind, and consequently the interest is high, as in addition to a greater quantity returned as principal, the interest almost invariably amounts to one-half the quantity lent, while if repayment is deferred for a year, the interest is doubled. The system is known as *deorha* or *derhi;* occasionally, when the grain is cheaper at seed-time, only *sawaya*, or one-fourth, is charged. Cultivators of sugarcane are commonly indebted, by reason of the system of advances made by sugar-boilers and dealers. When money is so advanced, no interest is charged, but the price given for the cane juice is reduced by Rs. 2 per hundred *kachcha* maunds. If the value of the cane juice supplied by the cultivators is insufficient to cover the advance, a balance is struck and carried on to the next year, with interest at two annas in the rupee added. The cultivator is also bound to make over the juice to the same *khandsari*, and will get Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 less for every hundred maunds than other tenants. A single bad season places the cultivator in pecuniary difficulties, from which he will take years to extricate himself, the result of this system being that most of the sugar-growers in the tract where sugar is refined, and not sold in the form of *gur*, are bound hand and foot to the *khandsari*. Interest on cash loans, where the principal is small and the period short, is charged at rates ranging from half an anna to one anna in the rupee monthly. Sums of Rs. 40 or Rs. 50 are lent to substantial tenants at two or three per cent. monthly; sums of over Rs. 100 can be obtained by small zamindars on registered bonds at one and a half or two per cent. monthly; while the rate paid on large sums by taluqdars and others on the security of landed property varies from ten annas to one rupee per cent. per mensem. Besides these, the two systems known as *up* and *ugahi* are found in this district, as elsewhere, in Oudh. Under the former, which prevails in the

Interest.

pattidari parganas, a money-lender provides a tenant with money to pay his rent on promise of receiving 2½ or 3 *kachcha sers* of grain for each rupee. If the money is not repaid within one month or two months, according to the agreement, interest in cash is added. Under the system known as *ugahi* a sum of Rs. 10 is borrowed and repaid in twelve monthly instalments of one rupee each, the amount varying according to the circumstances.

Manufactures. The manufactures and handicrafts of Kheri are very insignificant. Weaving and cotton printing, both of the coarsest description, are still to be found at Kheri, Amirtaganj and several other places in the Kheri pargana; but the industry has greatly declined under the stress of European competition, and the number of weavers is small. At the last census there were 4,825 workers of both sexes, mainly of the Julaha castes; printing appears to be practically extinct, as the returns show only 16 workers. The pottery of the district calls for no remark, nor do the metal industries: the only place where the latter are carried on to any extent is Oel in pargana Kheri, and here there is a fair output of brass vessels of the ordinary type. The important industries connected with sugar cultivation and forest produce do not properly rank among manufactures. There are in the Muhamdi tahsil, and especially in pargana Pasgawan, a number of so-called refineries; but the cane juice is only boiled down into *gur* and thence exported in that form to Shahjahanpur. Of the forest products, the chief are timber in various forms, and the drug known as catechu, which is extracted from the khair tree.

Trade. Before the introduction of the railway the chief outlets of trade were the Chauka and Kauriala rivers, both of which are navigable throughout their course, and to a minor extent the Gumti, on which boats can ascend as far as Muhamdi. At the present time, however, the river-borne trade is but small. Some grain is still carried down the Kauriala to Bahramghat, and logs are floated down the Chauka to the same destination; charcoal and *sal* beams are also sent down the Gumti to Lucknow. The railway has now become the chief means of communication for the portion of the district lying east of the Kathna river, while the Sonaripur branch constitutes the main trade

route from Nepal. In the south-west of the district the main road from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur is the principal channel of trade, produce from the country between the Gumti and Kathna, going generally to Sitapur, and from the tract west of the Gumti to Shahjahanpur. The more important exports of the district are rice, wheat, maize, oilseeds, tobacco, *gur* and molasses, timber, charcoal and forest produce, hides, horns and cattle. The principal imports are cloth, refined sugar, salt, kerosine oil, copper and iron goods from Lucknow and Cawnpore, brass goods from Fatehgarh and elsewhere, and carts and wheels from Pilibhit. These commodities, with the addition of tobacco, form the chief re-exports into Nepal, while the imports from that territory, received in return, are cattle, timber and forest produce, *ghi*, hides, catechu and spices.

Recent development.

Since the opening of the railway a large area of land, formerly under stunted *sal* or scrub jungle, has been cleared for cultivation, while several other changes have taken place of recent years and are still occurring. Owing to the breaking up of the grazing land there has been a marked decline in cattle-breeding, though this is still an important source of income. The fall in the price of refined sugar has had the effect of checking its manufacture in this district, for though the area under sugarcane has considerably increased of late years owing to general agricultural prosperity, the cultivators find it more profitable to make *gur* and sell it at once than to engage a *khandsari* to manufacture the juice into *rab*. Thirdly, a large trade in timber of various kinds, and charcoal, has been created, the income from the forests and their produce having been greatly enhanced by the improved facilities of transport. Lastly, owing to the demand for labour in clearing work, which is always well paid, wages have risen all over the district.

Markets.

A list of all the bazars and markets in each pargana and tahsil will be found in the appendix. Many of these are of little importance, merely serving to supply the modest needs of the neighbouring villagers. In several cases, too, the status of the markets has altered with the change in the trade routes, the bulk of the commerce having been diverted from the rivers and roadside towns to the bazars within reach of the railway. The chief trade centres are now Lakhimpur and Gola, and during the

busy season strings of carts may be seen converging on these two places from every direction. The chief depôts for the Nepal trade are now Chandan Chauki, Sonaripur and Dudhwa, on the branch line of railway.

Fairs. Another list, given in the appendix, shows all the fairs of any size held in the district. These gatherings are in almost every instance of a purely religious character, and none have any commercial importance except, perhaps, the great assemblages at Gola Gokarannath. The majority of the fairs are small gatherings, held in the larger villages on the occasion of the ordinary Hindu festivals, such as the Ramlila in Kuar, the Dasehra in Jeth, the Dhanusjag in Aghan, and the Ganeshlila and Jalbihar in Bhadon. They are of the usual character, and are of merely local interest; the largest are the Ramlila at Lakhimpur, Gola and Aurangabad, the Dasehra at Muhamdi and at Bahadurnagar in pargana Aurangabad, and the Jalbihar at Munda in the Srinagar pargana. Other large fairs, attended by 10,000 people or more, are the Bheryan fair in Jeth at Salempur of pargana Kheri, the festival of Mahadeo in Baisakh at Ghazipur in Kasta, the monthly fair of Gajmochan Nath at Roshannagar in Haidarabad, and the Gola fairs; the last attract pilgrims from distant parts, and call for special mention. The most popular of these gatherings is the Chaiti fair in March, at which about 150,000 persons assemble to bathe in the sacred tank. At the Sheoratri in February the attendance is about 30,000, and other fairs are held on the occasion of the Ramlila and on every Amawas. There are but few bathing fairs in the district, the chief being those at Nawagaon in Aurangabad, at Barwar in Pasgawan, at Dhakarwa Nankar in Nighasan, and at Ramlok in Firozabad, the last being the largest. Few of the Muhammadan gatherings are of any size. The chief are those in honour of Saiyid Khurram at Aurangabad and of Chheda Miyan at Kheri. Some mention of these, and especially of the Gola fairs, will be found in the separate articles on the places in question.

Communications. Owing to the general nature of the country, means of communication in this district have always been of the poorest description. Prior to the annexation of Oudh there were one or two recognised roads in the district, as may be learnt from

Sir W. H. Sleeman's account; but judging from the general state of roads in Oudh at that period, their condition must have been very inferior. During the Nawabi government Muhamdi was a place of some importance, and was connected by road with Shahabad in Hardoi, with Gola, and probably with Shahjahanpur and Khairabad. From Gola a road ran south-east to Oel and Laharpur; but with these exceptions it is impossible to trace the existence of any other regular roads. After the mutiny a network of roads was opened up in every direction. None of these were at first imperial; those from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur and from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi and Shahjahanpur being maintained from the road and ferry fund, while the others were local roads, for which a grant-in-aid was given. In 1861 the latter comprised the roads from Lakhimpur to Sitapur, Mallanpur, Khairigarh, to Aliganj and Mailani, to Mitauli and Maikalganj, and from Aliganj to Bhira. Many more were added soon after; but even at the present time the great majority are very poor, many of them being impassable during several months of the year, while the total length of metalled road in the district is less than in any other part of Oudh, with the single exception of Bahraich. The many rivers present a great obstacle to easy progress about the district, especially in the case of the Chauka. The roads approaching the ferries pass over expanses of drifting sand skirting the river, and the passage is only accomplished by carts with great difficulty, generally occupying an entire day.

Railways

A great improvement in communications has been effected since the construction of the Lucknow-Sitapur and Bareilly State Railway. The section from Sitapur to Lakhimpur was opened on the 15th of April 1887, and that from Lakhimpur to Gola on the 15th of December in the same year. The remainder, from Gola to Mailani and Pilibhit, was not opened till the 1st of April 1891. The railway enters the district in the south of the Kheri pargana and runs north, past the stations of Oel and Kheri, as far as Lakhimpur, where it turns to the north-west, traversing the parganas of Paila, Haidarabad and Kukra, leaving the district two miles beyond Mailani station. The other stations are at Phardahan in Kheri, Gola, and Kukra.

The line is of the metre-gauge, and is leased to the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway Company. From Mailani a branch light railway of 2 feet 6 inches gauge, and worked by the same company, runs to Pawayan in Shahjahanpur. It was completed on the 22nd of December 1894, and taken over by the company on the 17th of December 1900. Another metre-gauge branch runs north-east from Mailani to Maraunchaghat on the Sarda, which is crossed by a ferry, and thence to Sonaripur in the forests of Khairigarh. The portion from Mailani to the Sarda was opened on the 1st of January, 1883; that from the Sarda to Sohela station on the 10th of March of the same year, and from Sohela to Sonaripur on the 18th of March, 1894. From Dudhwa, a station between Sohela and Sonaripur, a branch line runs to Chandan Chauki on the banks of the Mohan river, a distance of six miles, which was completed in 1903. This railway crosses the Sarda by a bridge of piles and pontoons which is renewed annually, and is only worked for the six months from January to June. It is chiefly employed for the exportation of timber and other forest produce.

Provincial road.

The only provincial road in the district is a portion of the main road from Lucknow and Sitapur to Shahjahanpur, which traverses the south of the Aurangabad pargana and then, after passing through the Hardoi district, for a short distance, continues through the south-western corner of Pasgawan, leaving the district at the bridge over the Sukheta river. It has a total length of 17 miles in this district, and is maintained at a cost of Rs. 238 per mile. There are inspection bungalows on the road at Chaparthala in Aurangabad and at Katra in Pasgawan.

Local roads

The local roads of the district are divided into five classes, and have a total length of 650 miles 6 furlongs. Of this only 23 miles and 3 furlongs are metalled, and with the exception of seven miles of metalled road within the Lakhimpur municipality the metalling consists merely of short lengths of other roads in places where the sandy nature of the soil necessitates such treatment. The absence of metalled roads is largely due, as in the case of Bahraich, to the difficulty of procuring kankar, which, in the few places where it is found, is of an indifferent character. The roads from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur, Nighasan

and Sitapur are metalled for a short distance in the neighbourhood of headquarters, while the rest consists of portions of the road to Shahjahanpur between Gola station and Mamri and on either side of the Kathna, Gumti and Sukheta rivers, where the sandy soil renders an unmetalled road useless. A list of all the roads in the district will be found in the appendix. Very few of them are open throughout the year, and only three, those from Lakhimpur to Sitapur and Shahjahanpur and from Gola to Aliganj, are raised and bridged throughout. The direct road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi has been greatly improved by the recent construction of a large pile-bridge over the Kathna; and the roads from Lakhimpur to Chaparthala and Dhaurahra are also bridged as far as the Kathna and Chauka rivers respectively. The chief need of the district is an increase in the number of bridges; but these are very costly to construct, not so much on account of the violence of the floods, as of the alluvial nature of the soil, which affords no solid foundation and which is liable every year to be pierced by new channels. Slow progress is, however, being made in this direction. The chief permanent bridges are two over the Gumti on the provincial road and on the road to Muhamdi and Shahjahanpur, and over the Ul near Lakhimpur. There are inspection bungalows on the local roads at Muhamdi, at Adilabad on the road from Lakhimpur to Singahi, and at Bhikampur on the direct line from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi.

Forest roads. In the forest tracts many serviceable roads have been constructed by the department; they are primarily intended to facilitate the export of forest produce, but at the same time those that are open to the public constitute an important addition to means of communication in parts where district roads are few and far between. In the Bhira forest there are fourteen such fair-weather roads communicating with those from Lakhimpur to Mailani, and from Gola to Bhira and Khutar. In the trans-Sarda range, too, there is a good system of roads, although communications are here more difficult on account of the numerous rivers and streams, and more roads are required in order to reduce the compartments to a more convenient size. Seven roads are now open to the public.

Waterways. The rivers of the district are of some importance as a means of communication, but are no longer largely used by reason of

the development of the railway system. The Kauriala, Chauka and Sarju or Suheli are all navigable, and there was in former days a considerable traffic between this district and Bahramghat and other places on the Ghagra. The boats run up to 1,200 maunds burthen and are employed for carrying grain to the down-country markets. The principal trade, however, is in timber, which is floated down the rivers in rafts to Bahramghat. Until the construction of the Dudhwa branch of the railway, all the timber of the Khairigarh forest was floated down the Suheli to Shitaba ghat and thence along the Kauriala; but since 1893 the quantity carried in this way has been very small, and with further extension, river transport will become a thing of the past. Similarly in the Bhira forests, where the same method used formerly to be employed, its place is being altogether taken by the railway.

Ferries. A list of all the ferries in the district will be found in the appendix. They are exceptionally numerous in Kheri, as is only to be expected, since communications are constantly interrupted by unfordable rivers, especially in the north and east of the district. The most important ferries are those over the Chauka and Kauriala rivers, and particularly in those places where they are crossed by roads. All the larger ferries on the Chauka are managed by the district board and bring in a considerable income. The chief are those known as Pachperi on the road to Nighasan, and Dulamau on that to Dhaurahra. The Pachperi ferry is the most important in the district, and brings in an income of over Rs. 4,000 annually. The ferries on the Kauriala are managed partly by the district board of Kheri and partly by that of Bahraich, while in the case of the Sujauli and Shitaba ghats the income is received by each district in alternate years. The other ferries over the Chauka and those on smaller rivers are private and the income thereby derived accrues to the zamindars. The only exceptions are the ferries at Bhetia on the Gumti in pargana Pasgawan and at Khamaria in pargana Nighasan over the stream known as the Ghagra. The locality of the private ferries is subject to constant changes owing to the variation in the course of the streams. There is a great number of such ferries over the Ul between the Srinagar and Kheri parganas, and also over the Kathna and Gumti throughout their course in this district.

CHAPTER III.

THE PEOPLE.

THE district has always been the most backward and the most thinly populated part of Oudh. Though extending over a larger area than any other district, its population has always been very much smaller than that of any other in proportion to its size, and absolutely smaller than all others except Lucknow. The first regular enumeration was that of 1869, when the first census of Oudh was taken. There was a considerable difficulty in obtaining qualified enumerators and consequently the returns are to some extent open to doubt. The census showed a total of 738,089 inhabitants, which gave a density of 242 persons to the square mile, which is increased to 281 if the reserved forests be excluded. The district then contained 1,582 villages and towns, but of these only two, Muhamdi and Kheri-Lakhimpur, contained over 5,000 inhabitants, while 23 had between 2,000 and 5,000 and 123 others over 1,000. Census of 1869.

The next census was taken in 1881, after twelve years of continued prosperity and development, retarded only by the famine of 1877-78. The population had increased very rapidly; the total number of inhabitants was 831,922 persons, showing no less than 93,833 in excess of the previous total. The density rose to 278 persons to the square mile, still an unusally small rate. The total number of towns and villages were 1,655, and of these 1,425 had less than 1,000, and 184 others less than 2,000 inhabitants. Of the remaining 46, five contained over 5,000 persons each. These were Lakhimpur, Muhamdi, Oel, Kheri and Dhaurahra, all of which had grown very rapidly. Census of 1881.

During the following ten years the rate of increase was fully maintained, and at the census of 1891 the population of Kheri numbered 903,695 souls; the addition to the population during the previous decade being 71,693. The density rose to 304·7 persons Census of 1891.

to the square mile. This was still an extremely low figure for Oudh, although considerably in excess of the Himalayan district and those of Bundelkhand. The number of towns and villages had risen to 1,711, and of these 1,501 contained under 1,000 inhabitants apiece and 174 others under 2,000. Of the remaining 46, six contained over 5,000, the addition to the previous list being Singahi-Bhadaura in pargana Khairigarh.

Census of 1901. The last census of the district was taken on the 1st of March, 1901. The rapid rate of increase which had characterised the preceding 20 years had no longer been maintained, owing to bad seasons and other causes, and the population remain practically stationary. The total number of inhabitants was 905,138, showing an increase of only 1,523 since the preceding census. The average density was 305·5 persons to the square mile; but this is calculated on the entire area of the district. If the reserved forests, which are almost uninhabited, be excluded, the resultant density is 360·2 to the square mile. Even so, Kheri is the most sparsely populated district in Oudh—a result which is inevitable on account of the physical characteristics of the tract. Different parts of the district exhibit great variations in this respect, as the population is far thicker in the old settled tracts of the Muhamdi and Lakhimpur tahsils than in the precarious parganas to the north. In the Lakhimpur tahsil the average density is 405 to the square mile and in Muhamdi 397, while in Nighasan it is very much smaller. In the two former tahsils, moreover, several parganas exhibit a much higher rate, notably Kheri, Muhamdi, Haidarabad, and Paila.

Migration. The population has to some extent been swelled by immigration. The census returns showed that 87·59 per cent. of the inhabitants were natives of Kheri, while 10·87 per cent. were born in the adjoining districts, and 1·54 per cent. came from elsewhere. The proportion of immigrants is high for Oudh, and is, in fact, larger than in any other district, except Lucknow, where the population of the city is subject to considerable changes. In 1891 it was much higher, amounting to 16·7 per cent., and from this it would appear that the development of the tract has been effected to some extent by the advent of

agriculturists and others who were induced to settle in the newly-cleared holdings, the decrease in immigration resulting from the occupation for some years of the more accessible land. The movement has been but little counteracted by emigration. No less than 94·03 per cent. of the people born in Kheri were enumerated in the district of their birth, and the proportion of emigrants is considerably less than is the case in any other part of Oudh, with the single exception of Bahraich, where similar conditions prevail. Moreover, it may be noted that whereas in the case of immigrants the number of males and females is approximately equal, the latter greatly exceeded the former in the case of those who had left the district, showing that emigration had chiefly taken place in connection with the marriage custom of the country.

Towns and villages. The last census returns showed a total of 1,664 inhabited towns and villages in the district, with an average population of 544 persons. As many as 1,449 contained under a thousand inhabitants apiece, while of the remainder 169 had less than 2,000, and forty others less than 5,000. The towns with a larger population remained the same as before. The municipality of Lakhimpur, Dhaurahra and Singahi showed a considerable increase, while Muhamdi and Kheri had declined in a marked degree. The villages in the south of the district generally resemble those of Sitapur and Hardoi, having a main central site surrounded with scattered hamlets. In the north of the district the villages usually cover a very large area, with cultivation shifting over wide tracts of waste land; the sparse population is dispersed in multitudes of hamlets perched on high pieces of ground, and when the floods are out communications are interrupted for days, or are only carried on by boat. In the forest tracts the villages are mere clearings in the jungle and are seldom of a permanent character.

Sex. Of the total population in 1901, males numbered 478,629 and females 426,509. There are thus only 89·1 females to every hundred males in the district—a higher proportion than in Hardoi, but considerably lower than in any other part of Oudh. The disproportion, which is very marked in all tahsils, but especially in Muhamdi, is by no means an unusual phenomenon;

for while in the eastern districts of the United Provinces females generally preponderate, they are in a still more marked defect in Rohilkhand and in the other divisions to the west. Their number in Kheri is indeed proportionately high as compared with the adjoining districts of Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur. The cause of this disproportion of the sexes is altogether a matter for speculation. In former days it may have been due partly to infanticide; but this is far from being the sole or even the most important reason, as in districts where the practice has long been obsolete the number of males continues to exceed that of females. At the same time the relative position of the two sexes has greatly changed in Kheri during the past forty years. In 1869 there were only 84·7 females to every hundred males; this may have been partly due to concealment at the first census; but in 1881 the number was only 86·9, and since that time it has steadily risen to the present figure. That infanticide has nothing to do with the case is manifest from the fact that the phenomenon is not merely confined to the Rajputs and those other castes which were formerly addicted to this crime, but may be observed in all classes of the population.

Religions.

Of the whole number of inhabitants at the last census 780,659 were Hindus, 123,702 Musalmans, 473 Christians, 183 Aryas, 88 Sikhs, 21 Jains and 12 Buddhists. Hindus thus numbered 86·25 per cent. and Musalmans 13·67. The latter are comparatively numerous for Oudh, and have increased much more rapidly than their Hindu neighbours. In 1881 the proportion of Musalmans was 12·47 per cent., and at the following census 13·06 per cent. The subsequent increase is more remarkable in that the absolute increase of the population has been so small, and amply illustrates the fact, which is observed in almost every district, that Muhammadans are not only more long-lived, but are considerably more fertile than the Hindus. As this is not due to any difference of race in this district, at least with comparatively few exceptions, it follows that the effect must be ascribed to a more liberal diet, or some similar cause. Musalmans are fairly evenly distributed throughout the entire district, and are not confined to any particular centre.

Before proceeding to remark on the various Hindu and Muhammadan castes, the other religions, which are generally of little importance, may be first mentioned. Christianity has not made much progress in the district. The only missionary work has been that of the American Episcopal Methodist Church, which was started in 1862 by the Rev. E. W. Parker at Wesleypur near Aliganj. In 1881 the number of native Christians was 320; this had increased in 1891 to 462, but since that time the total has fallen off, and at the last census there were only 417, of whom 337 belong to the American Church. No denomination was specified in the case of 60 others, while the remaining 20 were Anglicans. The headquarters of the mission are at Lakhimpur, where there is a small chapel and a vernacular school for boys and girls. There are also preachers at Kheri, Gola, Muhamdi, Barwar, Pasgawan, Wesleypur and four or five other places. One of the workers is employed among the Tharus on the Nepal border, but little success has been achieved in this direction. Christ Church at Lakhimpur is a small building opened and consecrated by Bishop Clifford in 1896. It is visited ten times a year by the Chaplain of Sitapur. **Christianity.**

The Arya Samaj has not made much progress in this district, although there are more members than in many other parts of Oudh. The number of Aryas in 1891 was 132, and since that time the membership has increased by 51. Small communities are to be found in different places, but there are no recognised lodges; the chief centres are at Lakhimpur, Muhamdi and Gola. At the last census 54 of the Aryas were Kayasths by caste, 53 Brahmans, and 51 Banias; the remainder were Rajputs, Kumhars Kalwars and others. The Sikhs, of whom 76 were males and 12 females, chiefly belong to the Nighasan tahsil, where they are in the service of the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, while the rest are mainly employed in the police. The 12 Buddhists were also enumerated in the Nighasan tahsil and represent dealers and other immigrants from the Nepal hills. The few Jain traders are scattered about the district and are of no importance. **Other religions**

The Hindus of the district belong, as usual, to no particular religious sect. The census returns show a considerable number of Vaishnavites, Monotheists, Ramanandis, Saivites and others; **Hindus.**

but these together amount to a very small proportion of the whole. Several places, and pre-eminently Gola, are considered sacred, but the worship at these shrines is in no way peculiar. The Hindu population comprises representatives of a great number of castes, and in addition to the 78 shown in the census report there are probably several others, as in the case of 358 persons no caste was specified. Only a small proportion of these, however, are of any importance: it is perhaps remarkable that so many as 18 castes have over 10,000 members apiece, but of the rest 44 had less than 1,000. The great majority of these castes are to be found in almost all the Oudh districts and only a few occur in unusual numbers.

Chamars. The most numerous are the Chamars, of whom there were 103,722 persons or 13·29 per cent. of the whole Hindu population. They are evenly distributed throughout the district, and are everywhere employed as agriculturists and general labourers. They hold a considerable amount of land as tenants, but more frequently they work for hire for the Brahmans and other high-caste cultivators.

Kurmis. Next come Kurmis, who are fortunately very numerous in this district. At the last census there were 82,044 persons of this caste or 10·51 per cent. of the total number of Hindus. More than half of them belong to the Lakhimpur tahsil, while there are comparatively few in Nighasan, except in the Dhaurahra pargana, where they have long been settled. They are said to have been brought there by Raja Jodh Singh in the days of Asaf-ud-daula. Another great Kurmi colony is in Paila and is believed to be of much greater antiquity. From thence they spread into Haidarabad and Kheri. The Kurmis rank highest among all the cultivating castes. Their holdings are on an average larger than those of any other, but their husbandry is characterised by extreme care and minuteness. They generally grow the superior crops and pay the highest rents.

Pasis. Pasis, who number 68,143 souls or 8·86 per cent. of the Hindus, are not so numerous in Kheri as in the other districts of the division. The great majority of them belong to the Lakhimpur tahsil and there are comparatively few in Muhamdi. As in the neighbouring districts, the Pasis claim to have been the

ancient lords of the soil, but for centuries they have held a very inferior position. Their former seat is said to have been at Firozabad and the neighbourhood, and in this part of the district they are still found in large numbers. They are now generally engaged in agriculture or in their traditional occupation of watchmen, swineherds and thieves; for the Pasis of this district have no better reputation than their kinsmen in other parts. Large numbers of them are in possession of land as tenants; their average holdings are smaller than those of other castes and they pay a fairly high rent. Closely akin to the Pasis are the Arakhs, who numbered 4,240—a figure that is only exceeded in Hardoi of all the Oudh districts. Almost all of them belong to the Muhamdi tahsil and especially to those parganas on the Hardoi border. Like the Pasis they are said at one time to have had an extensive dominion in the latter district, stretching from Muhamdi on the north to Lucknow on the south.

Brahmans. Brahmans, of whom there were 65,260 or 8·36 per cent. of the Hindu population, are less numerous than in any other district of Oudh except Lucknow. They are fairly evenly distributed over all the tahsils. They own a considerable amount of land and also cultivate a large area. Like all the other high caste tenants, their holdings are large and their rents low, while their husbandry is of an inferior standard. The Brahmans of Kheri belong mainly to the Kanaujiya sub-division, which predominates in the districts to the south and west. Gaurs and Sanadhs are sparsely represented, as also are Sarwariyas and Sakaldipis.

Cultivating castes. **Ahirs.** Next come several of the chief cultivating castes of the district. Foremost among them are the Ahirs, who numbered 59,571 souls at the last census, or 7·63 per cent. of the Hindu community. Herdsmen by tradition, they are generally engaged in agriculture and occur in large numbers in all parts of the district, but especially the southern portion of the Nighasan tahsil and pargana Srinagar of Kheri; but at the same time they are less numerous here than in any other part of Oudh. **Lodhs.** Lodhs, who are cultivators of equal capacity, numbered 43,705; but to these must be added the 7,873 Kisans, who are practically the same, the two amounting to 6·6 per cent. of the Hindus. They are far more numerous in

the Nighasan tahsil than elsewhere, more than half of them residing in this subdivision. Almost all those who call themselves Kisans belong to Muhamdi, this term being generally adopted in the adjoining district of Hardoi. The Muraos or market-gardeners closely resemble the Kachhis, the latter again being practically confined to the Muhamdi tahsil. They numbered 39,566 persons in 1901, or 5·07 per cent. of the Hindu inhabitants of the district. They are excellent cultivators, devoting their attention for the most part to the more valuable crops, such as opium and sugarcane. They are far more numerous in the Nighasan tahsil than elsewhere, but occur in all the remaining parganas, generally holding the best land and paying high rents. Of similar capacity are the Malis, or gardeners, of whom there were 3,355, the great majority being in Muhamdi, the Baris, or growers of *pan*, numbering 2,063 and the Tambolis, who are practically identical with them, with 3,571 representatives, occurring in all tahsils in almost equal numbers. The Kahars, whose regular profession is domestic service, but who for the most part derive their living from agriculture, are very numerous in Kheri, amounting to 29,849 souls at the last census. They are fairly evenly distributed, but are strongest in the east of the district. In the Nighasan tahsil there were 210 Gharuks, a subdivision of this caste, which is generally considered a separate tribe, and only occurs in greater numbers in Fyzabad. The Kahars have many sub-castes, the strongest in this district being the Dhuriyas and Goriyas, while the Raghubansis are also found in large numbers and are almost wholly confined to this tract.

Muraos. **Kahars.**

Rajputs.

The Rajputs of Kheri numbered 29,816 souls, or 3·82 per cent. of the Hindu inhabitants. Numerically they are weaker here than in any other district of Oudh, except Bahraich, but their social predominance is fully as marked as in other parts, as they own a far larger proportion of the land than any other caste. Their distribution is somewhat uneven, as they are most numerous in the Muhamdi tahsil, which contained 13,595 representatives of the different clans; there were 11,174 in Lakhimpur, and only 5,049 in Nighasan. In addition to these, however, there are many Musalman Rajputs, numbering no less than 12,104 persons, chiefly in the Lakhimpur and Nighasan tahsils, who are to all

intents and purposes identical with their Hindu kinsmen, and who maintain their old habits and customs, associating with the unconverted members of their clans even in feasts and ceremonies.

The Rajputs of this district belong to a great number of clans, but only a few of these are of importance, the district being divided into territorial spheres of influence which are fairly clearly defined. Some of the chief ruling clans, however, are very small in numbers; the Raikwars, for instance, who predominate in Firozabad, had only 120 members; and the Janwars, who once owned almost all Kheri, Srinagar and part of Paila, amounted to 311 persons altogether. The Chauhans are the strongest of all, numbering 4,447 Hindus and 2,784 Musalmans; they are to be found in all tahsils, but especially in the north of Lakhimpur and Nighasan. They include the great taluqdari families of Oel, Mahewa and Kaimahra, who succeeded the Janwars, and the Jangres, whose territory extends over the centre of the district, from the Ul eastwards to the Kauriala. The Ahbans number some 3,000 souls, of whom the majority are Musalmans; their dominions were once very extensive, covering about 4,000 square miles in Kheri, Hardoi and Sitapur, and including in this district the belt of land between the Jamwari and the Kathna and stretching northwards to the Chauka; at present, owing to the force of circumstances, their property is greatly reduced, but this tract is still full of members of this famous clan. The Rathors, who numbered 2,628 persons in 1901, are found in all tahsils, but especially in the western half of the district and in the neighbourhood of the Shahjahanpur border. Though strong in numbers, they have never attained a conspicuous position either here or in any other part of Oudh, and their landed estates are small. The same may be said of the Bhadaurias, with 1,429 representatives divided between the Lakhimpur and Muhamdi tahsils; the Bais, with 1,429 Hindu and 434 Musalman members, who are distributed sparsely all over the district; the Katehriyas, who numbered 1,666, chiefly in Muhamdi; and the Panwars, of whom there were 1,196 Hindus and 210 Musalmans, mainly in Muhamdi, where they hold one or two clusters of villages. The Sombansis, numbering 1,371 persons, as well as many Musalmans, are found in all tahsils, but especially in Muhamdi, where one

Rajput clans.

of this clan embraced Islam and acquired the whole of the Saiyids' estates. The Gaurs, 1,375 souls, are mainly confined to the borders of Sitapur, in which their kinsmen own vast possessions. The Bachhils belong to Muhamdi and the west of Lakhimpur, their old estates lying between the Gumti and Kathna, of which they were dispossessed by the Saiyids; they numbered 1,052 persons at the last census. No other clan has over a thousand representatives. The strongest are the Chandels in Muhamdi; the Nikumbhs in the south-west of the same tahsil; the Tomars and Raghubansis, scattered all over the district; and the Gautams, also in tahsil Muhamdi. Of the many others none call for mention save possibly the Gahlots in Muhamdi and the Kachhwahas in Lakhimpur. The Surajbansis, too, who own all the land beyond the Suheli to the north, should not be passed by; they are of hill origin and their advent into Khairigarh dates from recent times only. There were 420 members of this clan at the last enumeration, and of these 339 belonged to the Nighasan tahsil.

Banias. The higher castes, which have not been already mentioned, include Banias, Kayasths and Khattris. The first of these numbered 18,515 souls—a fairly high proportion. They are distributed throughout the district, but nearly half of them reside in the Muhamdi tahsil. None of the various Bania subdivisions predominate in this district, the strongest are the Umars, while next to them come Rustogis, who are confined to Muhamdi, and only occur in larger numbers in Lucknow; Agarwals, in Muhamdi and Lakhimpur; Gahois, in Lakhimpur and Nighasan, amounting to 745 persons, which is only exceeded in Sitapur of all the Oudh districts; Barasenis, who are not found as a rule elsewhere in Oudh, but are very numerous in Rohilkhand, in Muhamdi; Mahesris, again far exceeding the total for any part of Oudh, also in Muhamdi; and Kandus in Nighasan. The Banias hold a few villages in the district, but their possessions show no rapid tendency to increase, chiefly owing to the prosperity of the taluqdars. **Kayasths.** Kayasths, on the other hand, hold a considerable proportion of the land. They numbered 8,337 persons at the last census and are evenly distributed throughout the three tahsils. The landowners usually represent the old qanungo families, but some of the villages held by this caste are taluqdari. The Kayasths

of Kheri are mainly of the Sribastab subdivision, the rest being for the most part Saksenas and Mathuras. Khattris numbered only 856, and are confined to the south of the district. They own a few villages, but have never acquired a position of any importance in Kheri. Khattris.

Other Hindus.

Several of the many remaining castes of Hindus present features of interest from an ethnographical point of view. This is not, however, the case with the ordinary castes which are common to all districts of Oudh and call for no special comment, as they occur generally in the usual proportions; but rather because of the existence in Kheri of many of the smaller castes in numbers which are remarkably in excess of those recorded in other parts of Oudh and the United Provinces. The most numerous are the Gadariyas, of whom there were 25,757 persons, chiefly in the Nighasan tahsil, where grazing is most abundant; and the Koris or weavers, who with their congeners the Dhanuks numbered 24,961 souls and are distributed throughout the district. The others had less than 20,000 members apiece, the most important being Telis, Dhobis, Lunias (who are unusually numerous in Kheri), Barhais, Bharbhunjas and Nais; while those amounting to less than ten and more than two thousand persons were, excluding the castes already mentioned, Kumhars, Faqirs, Lohars, Kalwars, Banjaras, Sonars, Bhangis, Bhats and Nats. Of these the Banjaras alone are noticeable: they numbered 6,823 souls, which is a higher figure than in any other district of the provinces. They are found everywhere, but their principal *habitat* is the north and pargana Khairigarh in particular. Here, as in Bahraich, they were practically the lords of the forest tracts till within recent times, and it was not till the close of the Nawabi rule that they were brought into subjection by the Surajbansis of Khairigarh and others. Banjaras.

Wandering tribes.

The Nats are one of the many criminal and vagrant tribes that haunt the district, and especially the jungles and uncultivated wastes. There were 2,434 of them in 1901, mainly in Muhamdi. They occur almost everywhere, but are more common in Kheri than in other parts of Oudh—a true gipsy race, living in tents and seldom settling for long in one place. Paturiyas, who are probably the same as Beriyas, numbered 551—a higher figure than in any

other Oudh district. The same is the case with Haburas, of whom there were 389, all in the Muhamdi tahsil. Barwars, too, are comparatively numerous, having 232 representatives, but this is very largely exceeded by Gonda, where is the principal Barwar colony. It is curious that the census returns should show no Sansiahs in Kheri in spite of the existence of the settlement at Sahibganj; but these tribes frequently change their name in order to avoid undesirable attention; many of them are called Bhatus, of whom 204 were enumerated. The Kanjars are another wandering race; they numbered 599 souls, and chiefly reside in the Nighasan tahsil. There were 249 Khangars, more than elsewhere in Oudh; the caste is chiefly found in Bundelkhand, where they are either watchmen or thieves. Of similar status are the Radhas, dancers and singers, who numbered 697, which is only exceeded in Sitapur; Dharhis, 143 persons, whose profession is similar, but less reputable; and Harjalas, with 110 representatives, who subsist by mendicancy. Of the two last, the former mainly belong to Gonda, and are also found in large numbers in Basti and Gorakhpur, while the latter are peculiar to this district and Shahjahanpur.

Uncommon. castes.

Several other castes which derive their living from agriculture or other respectable occupations are to be found in unusual numbers. Bahelias or hunters are naturally more common in Kheri than in other parts of Oudh, numbering 1,924 persons, chiefly in the Nighasan and Muhamdi tahsils. Jats, of whom there were 1,650, all in the Muhamdi tahsil, are nowhere common in Oudh, but are far more numerous here than in other districts. The Tharus, amounting to 1,558 persons in Khairigarh, are peculiar to the submontane tracts; they are cultivators by profession and are able to withstand the malarial climate of the *tarai* better than other races. They are found in approximately equal numbers in Bahraich and Gonda. Gujars occur in small numbers throughout Oudh, but Kheri heads the list with 1,384 persons of this caste, in the Lakhimpur and Muhamdi tahsils. There were 1,056 Belwars, all in Lakhimpur. This caste is only found elsewhere, and in much smaller numbers, in Hardoi, Bara Banki and Shahjahanpur; they are cultivators and grain-dealers, and appear to be a subdivision of Banjaras. The Gurkhas, of whom there were

522 in Nighasan, are immigrants from Nepal, and call for no further comment. The Gorchhas, on the other hand, are quite peculiar to Kheri: they numbered 484 souls, all in Nighasan, and are cultivators who, like the Tharus, claim a Rajput origin, with probably as much right as the latter. There were 258 Dabgars in the Muhamdi tahsil; they are akin to Mochis, and manufacture the raw-hide jars in which oil and *ghi* are carried. Other industrial castes which occur in greater numbers than elsewhere in Oudh include Saiqalgars, or armourers, and Chhipis, or cotton-printers. The rest are only found in very insignificant numbers. Mention may be made of the Kirars, who are cultivators, and possibly of inferior Rajput stock; Khagis, who are practically identical with the Lodhs; Niyarias, artizans who smelt the precious metals; and Pankhias, a cultivating caste, who are only found in Rohilkhand, and in very small numbers in the north of Oudh.

Musalmans.

The number of Musalmans in Kheri is comparatively large, but the same may be said of all the submontane districts. They are more numerous in Gonda and Bahraich, and also in Lucknow, Bara Banki and Sitapur. The Lakhimpur tahsil contains the largest number, but elsewhere the followers of this creed are fairly evenly distributed. The Musalmans of this district belong to a great number of subdivisions or castes. At the last census no less than 52 of these were represented, while in the case of 114 persons no caste was specified. Few of these, however, are of much importance, only five castes had over 10,000 members apiece, and thirteen others more than a thousand. Of the rest, in twenty-six instances there were less than 200 persons enumerated. The majority of the Musalman castes have their Hindu counterparts, and very few are peculiar to this district or in any way remarkable. The Kheri Musalmans are almost all Sunnis, the members of this sect numbering 98 per cent. of the whole. There were at the last census only 921 Shias—a lower figure than in any other district of Oudh, save Partabgarh. Of the other sects, Lalbegis alone occurred in any numbers, amounting to 1,305, which is only exceeded in Lucknow; they are all converted Bhangis or sweepers.

Julahas. The Julahas or weavers are the most numerous of all the Musalmans. At the last census there were 19,731, or 15·95 per cent. of the whole Muhammadan population. Nearly two-thirds of them were enumerated in the Lakhimpur tahsil, while in Muhamdi they were comparatively scarce, the total number in that tahsil being 2,567. They still are engaged, to some extent, in their ancestral occupation of weaving, but their trade has declined under the pressure of European competition, and though there are still fair numbers of weavers in the district, the majority of the Julahas have betaken themselves to agriculture—a profession which they follow with but indifferent success, although they are usually industrious. Closely akin to the Julahas are the Dhunas or Behnas, cotton-carders by trade, who numbered 10,611 souls, or 8·57 per cent. of the Musalman population. Their general distribution is approximately the same as that of the Julahas. They are employed as spinners and weavers still, but the demand for their labour has fallen off, and most of them are now dependent on the land for a subsistence.

Pathans. Pathans numbered 16,059 souls, or 12·98 per cent. of the Musalmans. Nearly half of them belong to the Muhamdi tahsil, which was for long the chief centre of Muhammadan power in the district, and the bulk of the remainder to Lakhimpur; there are comparatively few in Nighasan, where there are no old Musalman settlements of any importance. The Pathans of this district are drawn from many clans or subdivisions. The best represented are the Ghori and Yusufzai, which accounted for 2,180 and 1,208 souls, respectively; of the rest the strongest numerically are the Kakar, Bangash, Rohilla and Muhammadzai tribes. Others, which are not noted in the census report, are Daudzais, Bakarzais, and Shahryaris, the last of whom seem to be peculiar to this district. There are no Pathan taluqdars in Kheri; but many of them have an interest in the land. They are frequently to be found as tenants, holding their fields at privileged rates.

Musalman Rajputs. The converted Rajputs have already been mentioned. They numbered at the last census 12,104 persons, or 9·86 per cent. of the Musalman population. There are but few in the Muhamdi

tahsil, but they are numerous both in Lakhimpur and Nighasan. Many of them belong to the Ahbans; but there are large numbers of Chauhans, Katehriyas and Janwars. In Nighasan there are over 500 Gaurs, while in Lakhimpur fair numbers of Gautams and Sombansis are to be found.

The Sheikhs are not so numerous in Kheri as in many parts of Oudh, their total at the last census being 10,998 souls, or 8·89 per cent. of the whole number of Musalmans. Half of them belong to Muhamdi, and the bulk of the remainder to Lakhimpur. They belong, as usual, to many subdivisions, but the most prominent are the Siddiqis, with 4,336 representatives, followed by Qurreshis, with 1,722. There are but small numbers of Ansaris and Faruqis, and a large proportion come under no specified denomination, being probably the descendants of converted Hindus. **Sheikhs.**

The Saiyids, who played so important a part in the history of the south and west of the district, are not very strong numerically in Kheri. The census returns show 3,413 persons of this class, evenly distributed throughout the three tahsils. The best represented subdivision is the Zaidi, numbering 301 souls, most of whom belong to Muhamdi, while next come Husainis and Rizwis. Other tribes are the Jafri, Jalali, Bukhari and Tirmuzi; but none of these are of any importance. Though they have lost much of the property they once held, they still stand high among the land-owning classes of the district. **Saiyids.**

The remaining Muhammadan castes call for no special mention. Nais, Darzis, Faqirs and Gaddis, all numbered over six thousand souls. Then come Manihars, or glass-makers, with 2,812 persons; while Qassabs, Halwais and Dhobis also had more than 2,000 representatives apiece. Those with over a thousand members were Telis, Bhangis, Mughals and Mewatis, none of whom call for notice save the last, who are more numerous in Kheri than elsewhere in Oudh; they belong almost exclusively to Muhamdi, and are probably immigrants from Rohilkhand. The rest are of little interest or importance: Ghosis, Kunjras, Bhats, Banjaras and Rangrez are the most numerous, but all are found in most districts of Oudh. The rare or peculiar castes are very few. There are more Musalman Lohars **Other Musalmans.**

than in any other part of Oudh, and the same may be said of Dhanuks and Bangalis, the latter being a wandering caste of no fixed occupation. The Kingarias, who come from Mirzapur, but are found throughout Oudh, are singers and dancers by profession, and numbered 132 persons. The only caste which appears to be peculiar to this district are the Bhils, of whom there were nine enumerated here in 1901; but possibly their presence is due to a mistake, as they do not occur in any other district. They may, however, be otherwise designated elsewhere, as at the former census they were found in several places, and especially in the submontane districts.

Language. The ordinary dialect of the people is the Awadhi form of Eastern Hindi, which at the time of the census was spoken by 98·7 per cent. of the inhabitants. Of the rest, 1·17 per cent. spoke the form of Western Hindi, which is generally known as Hindostani. None of the other dialects call for any mention. It may be noted that 250 persons were recorded with Kumauni as their native dialect, these being immigrants from the hills to the northern parganas; an equal number spoke Panjabi, including the Sikhs and the sawyers employed by the Forest department; while 79 persons spoke English and a very few Gujrati and Marwari. There is but little any indigenous literature in Kheri. The Muhamdi Nawabs were to some extent patrons of learning, and in the days of Ali Akbar Khan, about 1770, we hear of Prem Nath, a Brahman poet of Kalwa, Nidhan, another Brahman, and Gumanji Misr of Sandi, in Hardoi, who attended his court. Raja Sabba Singh of Oel was a man of letters and in 1817 wrote an important work on vernacular composition entitled the *Bidwan-mod Tarangini.* Ajodhya Parshad of Gola, who attached himself to the Rajas of Bhur and flourished about 1840, was a voluminous author of little merit. Ranjit Singh of *Isanagar* was a learned man and translated the *Harivansa* into the vernacular. There are no native newspapers, and only one small printing press at Lakhimpur, known as the Hindi Prabha Press, started in 1888, and owned by a Brahman family; it merely executes small job-work. The only literary or social institution is the Kheri institute, founded in 1887 in order "to diffuse knowledge and science, and discuss measures that may tend to improve the

social, moral, and intellectual status of the country, and to discuss questions affecting the public weal." It is lodged in a small building, and possesses a library; English and vernacular periodicals are circulated among the members, who are of all castes and creeds.

Occupations.

The occupations of the people are merely such as are to be expected in a purely agricultural and pastoral district in which there are no large towns, no trade save in grain and forest products, and no manufactures of any importance. The census returns show that no less than 76·82 per cent. of the population derived their subsistence from the land; this, however, includes not only landowners and cultivators, but also the agents, clerks and bailiffs of the former, as well as those employed in the forests. It does not, however, include the herdsmen, graziers and others engaged in the care of animals, who, together, amounted to 1·37 per cent. of the population. The total is probably below the mark, for an additional two per cent. were enumerated as partly dependent on agriculture, and in reality only a very small proportion of the people of Kheri derive their living otherwise than from the land, whether directly or indirectly. The industrial population is much smaller than usual, altogether being 9·98 per cent. of the whole. Somewhat over forty per cent. of this is made up of the makers and sellers of articles of food and drink; some 23 per cent. are manufacturers or dealers in textile fabrics, mainly cotton cloth; about ten per cent. are workers in wood, cane and other forest and jungle produce; while the other industries, such as metals, pottery and leather, are but poorly represented. Unskilled labour is the support of 4·04 per cent. of the population, while of the rest 3·57 per cent. were in personal and domestic service; 1·24 per cent. in Government employ, 1·07 per cent. were engaged in commerce, transport and storage, although the actual commercial population was only ·2 per cent., the bulk of this class being carriers by road, rail and river; and ·7 per cent. represented the professional population—a very wide order, ranging from lawyers and doctors to wrestlers and acrobats. The remaining 1·08 per cent. consisted of persons with no ostensible means of subsistence or those independent of any occupation;

among the former come mendicants, who constitute about 84 per cent. of the class, while the rest include pensioners, prisoners and the few persons whose property is in houses, shares and the like.

Proprietary tenures.

Of the agricultural population, 4,036 persons were classed as landowners. The number is very small and, indeed, was only less in Bahraich and Pilibhit of all the districts of the United Provinces. The reason lies in the fact that a very small body of taluqdars own about three-fourths of the entire area, and though the territorial division of the land among a few Rajput clans is not so marked as in other parts of Oudh, yet Kheri is essentially a district of great estates. There are altogether 1,749 villages in the district, exclusive of those which have been merged in the reserved forest. In 1904 these were divided into 2,374 mahals, of which 19 were the property of Government, 1,078 were held by taluqdars, 590 by single zamindars, 541 in joint zamindari, 155 in pattidari and ten in bhaiyachara tenure. In those parganas in which taluqdars predominate the number of mahals closely approximates to the number of villages; but where there are many coparcenary communities, as in Pasgawan, Aurangabad and Muhamdi, the subdivision is very minute. Thus, in the Nighasan tahsil, there are 404 villages and only 434 mahals, of which 340 are held by taluqdars and 66 by single zamindars. In Lakhimpur there are 685 villages and 866 mahals, of which 493 are taluqdari and 221 single zamindari. In Muhamdi, on the other hand, there are 660 villages and as many as 1,074 mahals, of which taluqdars hold but 245 and single zamindars 303. The Aurangabad pargana contains a smaller proportion of taluqdari land than any other, and here there are 113 villages and 243 mahals, of which 147 are owned by coparcenary bodies.

Proprietary castes.

The whole, or the greater part, of 64 villages is held by Europeans, though this is but a fraction of the amount originally bestowed on several persons after the mutiny in the shape of grants of confiscated estates. Most of these were sold soon after, and only one European taluqdar remains. Other grants were assigned to loyal Sikhs, and the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala made large purchases, so that the Sikhs now own 63 villages. Of the Musalmans, the converted Ahbans hold 82 villages, Saiyids

151, Pathans 35, Mughals one, and the Mahmudabad Khanzadas 68. Some of the Pathans are wrongly so described, being in reality converted Ahbans. Among the Hindus, Rajputs largely predominate. They hold no less than 881 villages, of which 352 belong to the Chauhans of Kheri, 170 to the Jangres of Bhur and Firozabad, 111 to the Khairigarh Surajbansis, 56 to the Raikwar Raja of Mallanpur and 48 to the Sombansis. These are almost without exception included in large taluqdari holdings. Of the other Rajput clans, the Nikumbhs have 31 villages, all in pargana Pasgawan; Gaurs have 22 in Pasgawan, Aurangabad and Muhamdi; Ahbans 17 in Bhur and Paila; Chauhans, in addition to those already mentioned, 15 in various parts of the district; Bachhils and Tomars eleven each, in both cases in the Muhamdi tahsil; while Bais have nine, and others, such as Gautams, Gaharwars and Panwars, 22 villages in Muhamdi and elsewhere. Next come Brahmans and Kayasths with 119 and 101 villages, respectively, in almost every pargana of the district; Kurmis with 41, Goshains with 38, Khattris with 34, Banias with 16, and Lodhs with nine. The remaining 21 villages are held by other castes, 18 of them being in the Muhamdi tahsil.

Taluqdars.

Twenty-five taluqdars have landed possessions in Kheri, but twelve of them reside in other districts; some of the latter live at a great distance from their estates, such as the Sikh ruler of Kapurthala, the Bais Rana of Khajurgaon and the Sombansi Raja of Partabgarh. Their possessions in Kheri were obtained for good service rendered in other parts of Oudh in 1857 and the following year, or else were acquired by purchase from others who had been rewarded in a similar manner. The local landed aristocracy are few in numbers, and those families who have held their estates for more than a century are still fewer. Kheri affords a typical example of the growth of those mushroom taluqas which characterised the last half-century of native rule in Oudh. The Janwars of Kheri, who held the comparatively humble office of chaudhri, in a few years gained possession of a vast property, and their Chauhan representatives now hold more than 350 villages. The Surajbansis from the Nepal hills seized a whole pargana by force of arms. The Jangres of Bhur occupied a

vast tract in a similar fashion, following the example set by the Saiyids of Barwar, whose descendants were afterwards stripped of their estates only to make way for what was perhaps the most remarkable taluqa in all Oudh. The notorious Raja Lone Singh of Mitauli, after the prevailing methods of the day, amassed a property of 650 villages and more, and this he might have continued to hold but for his moral weakness and treachery in the mutiny. The dissolution of this estate opened the way for outsiders, and the following sketch of the different estates will show not only how rapidly property changed hands in this district, but also the fate which almost invariably befell the long-established proprietors of the soil.

Kapurthala. The premier taluqdar in Oudh is the Sikh Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala in the Punjab. His property in this district was acquired by purchase, and forms a recent addition to the vast estates in Bahraich and Bara Banki, given to Sir Randhir Singh Bahadur, the grandfather of the present Maharaja, for the loyal assistance rendered by him to the British Government during the mutiny. His Kheri estates originally belonged for the most part to the Jangre Raja of Dhaurahra and were confiscated for persistent rebellion and for the treachery displayed towards the Mallanpur refugees. In 1859 the taluqa was apportioned among several grantees, and the share held by Captain J. Hearsey was sold to Colonel Boileau and then by him to the Kapurthala estate a few years after. This property, which is managed by the Maharaja's agent in Bahraich, is generally known as the Matera estate, and comprises 21 villages in pargana Dhaurahra and two villages and six mahals in Firozabad. He is also the owner of eleven villages and four mahals in Aurangabad, and four villages of Paila, purchased from the original European grantees. The total in this district is therefore 38 villages and 10 mahals, assessed to a revenue of Rs. 28,225.

The Chauhans. The southern half of the Lakhimpur tahsil is mainly held by three great taluqdars of one family. These are the Chauhans of Oel, Mahewa and Kaimahra. The early history of these taluqas is somewhat obscure, and it was not till the beginning of the nineteenth century that they rose to any prominence in this district, although the family tradition ascribes the Kheri

pargana to their Janwar predecessors at a much earlier date. It appears certain that there were Janwars in Kheri several centuries ago; they were probably connected with the members of the same clan in Sitapur, who still hold numerous estates in that district and claim to have come from central India about the beginning of the sixteenth century. They have presumably no connection with the great Janwar families of Bahraich and Gonda. Tradition relates that one Jamnibhan was appointed chaudhri of pargana Kheri in 1553, with the right to levy two pice on every *bigha* of cultivation in the pargana. His descendants retained the office and held the title of Rai, and an old document states that in 1709 Parbal Singh Chaudhri owned the three villages of Oel, Kaimahra and Khogi; the head of the family, Rai Than Singh, had nine villages, and his sons, Bhagwant Singh and Mandhata Singh, two each; and one Jagraj, of the same race, held Dhakwa, which is still in the possession of his descendants, the summary settlement being made with Sanwal Singh at Rs. 2,200. The bulk of the pargana had then been absorbed by the Saiyids of Barwar, but after their fall the Janwars began to extend their borders. It would appear from the very confused and conflicting accounts that one Maharman Sah, the head of the family, assumed the title and status of Raja; that he died without male issue, having adopted his son-in-law, Hardeo Sah, a Chauhan of Jaipur. The latter was succeeded by his son, Udat Sah, but by reason of the domestic feuds that had arisen over the succession and the pressure from without exerted by the Gaurs of Katesar, the Raja fled and the estate was for a time broken up.

Oel.

The fortunes of the family were restored by Pitam Singh, a descendant of Udat Singh, who returned from Jaipur and in 1780 obtained from the chakladar the lease of many villages. From this man come the three taluqdars, whose estates were formed in the usual fashion; 299 villages of Srinagar were taken from the old proprietors in 1823, and in 1839 some 30 villages of Karanpur were added. The Kaimahra house actually represents the eldest branch, but the Oel family has at all times been the most powerful. Bakht Singh of Oel, a son of Pitam Singh, was followed by Sabba Singh, who acquired Karanpur from the

Ahbans, and the latter was succeeded by Raja Anrudh Singh, who was the most prominent personage in the district, excepting perhaps Lone Singh of Mitauli, his constant enemy. In 1849 he was created Raja by the King of Oudh. His intrigues against the Raja of Kaimahra on behalf of his younger brother, Drigbijai Singh, are related by Sir William Sleeman.* The summary settlement was made with Anrudh Singh, who engaged for an estate paying Rs. 64,804 in the parganas of Kheri, Srinagar, Basara, Aliganj and Karanpur, and also held property in Hargam of Sitapur. He died in 1879, having two years previously received the hereditary title of Raja, and was succeeded by his son, Raja Krishn Datt Singh, who was born in 1861. The property, which has for some years been under the management of the Court of Wards, now consists of 164 whole villages, eleven mahals and two pattis in this district, assessed at Rs. 1,24,199, and also one village in Sitapur. His Kheri estates lie chiefly in the Kheri pargana, where he owns 74 villages, ten mahals and two pattis, and in Srinagar, in which he holds 68 villages. He also owns seven villages and one mahal in Bhur, four villages in Paila, two in Kukra, two in Atwa Piparia, six in Paila, and one in Dhaurahra. The Raja's residence is at Oel.

Mahewa. The Mahewa family represents a younger branch of Oel, but the date of its foundation is obscure. In Sleeman's time it was held by Thakur Umrao Singh, who had largely increased his estates in 1822 with the aid of the revenue officials, and from him passed to Bhup Singh, and then to the latter's son, Gajraj Singh, who obtained the *sanad* for the estate, engaging at the summary settlement of 1859 for property in Kheri, Srinagar, Aliganj, Basara, Karanpur at a revenue of Rs. 41,811. He died in 1860 without issue, and the estate passed to his brother, Girwar Singh, who adopted his nephew, Thakur Balbhaddar Singh. The latter held the taluqa till his death in December 1898. He was succeeded by his widow, Rani Raghubans Kunwar, but her right was for some time contested by a relative, Thakur Sheo Singh, son of Dunia Singh and brother of Balbhaddar. Eventually the suit was decreed in favour of the widow who still holds the estate, although further litigation is in progress. Mahewa

* Tour in Oude, II, III.

now comprises 126 villages, twelve mahals and six pattis in this district, assessed at Rs. 95,390, as well as a small estate in Sitapur. The greater portion of the former lies in pargana Srinagar, where the Rani owns 59 villages and one mahal. She also holds forty whole villages, six mahals and four pattis in Kheri, while elsewhere her estates consist of ten villages and one mahal in Kukra, nine villages, one mahal and one patti in Paila, four villages in Bhur, one in Atwa Piparia, two villages and one mahal in Dhaurahra, one village, one mahal and one patti in Haidarabad, and one mahal in Nighasan.

Kaimahra.

The Raja of Kaimahra is descended from the eldest son of Pitam Singh, but in several instances the line has been broken by adoption. In 1837 or thereabouts Raja Ajab Singh gained possession of the estate which he managed to hold for many years in spite of the encroachments of the Rajas of Oel and Mitauli. About 1850 he was attacked and turned out by his cousin, Jodha Singh, through the influence of Anrudh Singh of Oel, who hoped to gain the estate for himself. Jodha Singh, however, though naturally of weak intellect, retained the taluqa till his death, when it passed to his adopted son, Narpat Singh, who obtained the *sanad* and held the estate till his decease in 1887. His property at the summary settlement consisted of lands in the Kheri pargana paying Rs. 14,400 as revenue. In 1864 the title of Raja was confirmed as hereditary. Narpat Singh left a minor son, Achal Singh, who succeeded him, but the estate was under the Court of Wards till his death in 1896. It then passed to his mother, Rani Dayawant Kunwar, who still holds the property, which is managed as before by the Court of Wards, though free from encumbrance. The taluqa now consists of 34 whole villages and five mahals in pargana Kheri, and two villages in Srinagar, the whole being assessed to a revenue of Rs. 30,155.

The Jangres.

The chief landowning clan in the centre of the district is also of Chauhan extraction. The family tradition states that one Akhiraj Singh, a Chauhan from Ajmer, settled in Dhaurahra in the time of Jahangir, and that either he or his grandson, Chhatarbhoj Singh, distinguished himself in the Deccan and was rewarded with a grant of land in this district and the proud title of Jang Angez Khaqani Raja, from which by popular

corruption came the word Jangre, the present appellation of the family. The story sounds extremely mythical; and for historical purposes it is sufficient to note that these Jangres first made their mark in this district by overthrowing, in 1603, the notorious Bachhil chieftain, Chhipi Khan, and thus securing the vast pargana of Kamp-Dhaurahra. Such a large tract of land became in the course of time subdivided among various branches of the family, the chief estates being those of Bhur, Isanagar and Dhaurahra. The last has disappeared, though it was once the most important. No records exist of the early Rajas of this clan. It would seem that the Raja of Bhur was the head and that the other members of the family acknowledged his supremacy, paying him an annual tribute or *bhent*. Zalim Singh, the last of these Bhur Rajas, and sixth in descent from Chhatarbhoj, adopted a Sombansi, named Jodha Singh, who acquired an enormous estate known as Kamp-Dhaurahra from the Bisens, who had formerly held that pargana. He defeated and killed Raja Qalandar Singh in 1781, and later on overthrew his son, Raghunath Singh. In 1782 Jodha Singh was himself slain by the Nazim, Raja Sital Parshad, in a pitched battle at Dhaurahra, and this defeat caused the dismemberment of the great estate. His widow successfully resisted the efforts of the last Bisen, Ram Nath Singh, to recover his ancestral possessions, and gradually regained a large portion of pargana Dhaurahra as well as the Jangre estates in Dharmanpur of Bahraich. She died in 1833 without issue. She had previously adopted as a son Raja Achal Singh, a second cousin of her husband; but this man murdered Mr. Carbery, an English trader, in 1822, and for this crime he was seized and imprisoned at Lucknow, where he died 22 years later. The property passed to Arjun Singh, a grand-nephew of Achal Singh, and in 1848 he obtained the whole pargana of Dhaurahra from the Nazim, Bande Ali Beg. His son, Indra Bikram Singh, engaged for the taluqa at annexation; but owing to his rebellion, in which the chief part was played by his widowed mother, the estate was confiscated and given to strangers, while the Raja died in the Andaman Islands.

Isanagar. A younger member of this family was Chain Singh, who in 1792 held only two small rent-free plots of land. He managed,

after the usual manner, to ingratiate himself with the revenue authorities and gradually enlarged his estate. In 1833 he acquired the taluqa of Isanagar, comprising the northern half of the Firozabad pargana, and this was retained by his son and grandson. The former was Jait Singh and the latter Ranjit Singh, who obtained the *sanad* for the taluqa, engaging for lands paying a revenue of Rs. 25,984 in this district, as well as other properties in Bahraich and Sitapur, at the summary settlement. He died in 1889, and was succeeded by his son, Raghuraj Singh, the present taluqdar. The estate, which is heavily encumbered, now consists of 25 whole villages and six mahals in Firozabad and six villages of Dhaurahra, paying a revenue of Rs. 46,350. The taluqdar also has property in the Bahraich and Sitapur districts.

Bhur.

After the death of Jodha Singh, the Bhur or Bhira branch of the family rose to some prominence. Raj Indra Singh held a very extensive estate in the Bhur and Nighasan parganas, and this was divided between his two sons, Dalan Singh and Partab Singh. The former had two sons, Umrao Singh and Jit Singh, and the latter three sons, Dariao Singh, Zalim Singh, and Kesri Singh. The elder son of Umrao Singh was Raj Ganga Singh, who at the summary settlement of 1859 engaged for the whole Bhur estate at a revenue of Rs. 37,556. He died without issue and his widow asserted her claim to the taluqa; this was disallowed, and the property was divided into four equal shares, one going to the widow, one to Bariar Singh, younger brother of Ganga Singh, a third to Ahlad Singh, son of Zalim Singh, and the fourth to Sadhu Singh, son of Kesri Singh, The share of Jit Singh was not recognised, nor was that of Dariao Singh, on account of their disloyalty during the mutiny, although it should be noted that all the Jangres, abetted by the widowed Rani, stoutly contested the re-establishment of British authority. Bariar Singh's portion, as well as that of Ganga Singh, went to the former's two sons, Milap Singh and Dalpat Singh. Raj Milap Singh died in 1882, leaving a widow, Rani Dhan Kunwar, who died in 1891. Her share then went to Rani Raj Kunwar, widow of Dalpat Singh, and she, too, died in 1899, the elder branch having thus disappeared altogether. Ahlad Singh also died without issue, and his share was merged in that of

Sadhu Singh. The latter had two sons, Guman Singh and Gobardhan Singh, who obtained equal shares. Guman Singh died in 1894, leaving a widow, Raj Rani, who died in 1896, and her share passed to Raj Gobardhan Singh; the latter died in 1905, leaving his estate between his two widows, with reversion to a daughter's son. This daughter was married to Kunwar Sardar Singh, second son of the Sisodia Raja of Shahpura in Rajputana. The other half passed from Rani Raj Kunwar to the descendants of Jit Singh, whose great-grandson was Lalta Singh. The latter had three sons, Debi Bakhsh, Raghubar Singh and Mangal Singh, who succeeded to the half of the estate known as Bhur or Majhgain. The first died in 1904, and Raj Raghubar Singh is the present taluqdar: his estate is locally known as Jhandipurwa from the place of his residence, while that of Gobardhan Singh is called Bijua from the same cause. The latter branch has no representative on the darbar list.

The Jhandipurwa taluqa consists of the Majhgain, Shahpur, Bijauria and Jagdeopur estates, and comprises 39 villages and four mahals in Bhur, 35 villages and one mahal in Nighasan, and one mahal in Paila, the whole being assessed at Rs. 58,580.

Bijua includes the four original estates of Ramnagar, Daulatpur, Bijua and Nighasan, and at present consists of 29 villages and one mahal in pargana Bhur, and 27 villages and one mahal in Nighasan, paying a revenue of Rs. 49,715.

Mallanpur. The Raikwars, who occupy so prominent a position in Bahraich, Sitapur and Bara Banki along the course of the Ghagra, never extended their dominions beyond the south-east corner of this district. It is said that in the days of Sher Shah, one Rao Ratan Singh, a member of the great Baundi house, rose to distinction in the imperial army and obtained in addition to the title of Rao the grant of Mallanpur in Sitapur. This man lived eleven generations ago, but his date is given variously as 1558 and 1602 Sambat. The history of the family is very obscure, and it is not known when the Raikwars extended their possessions beyond the Dahawar into this district. The taluqa was probably of no great size till the days of Rao Basti Singh, the grandfather of the present owner, who made large additions to his property in the usual manner about 1825. His estates at his death extended

over the whole of the south of Firozabad and marched with those of the Jangres of Isanagar. He was succeeded by his son, Rao Amar Singh, who died leaving an infant son, Rao Muneshwar Bakhsh Singh, who engaged for the estate at both the summary settlements. The taluqa was taken after the mutiny under the Court of Wards and was released in 1870. Six years previously the taluqdar had obtained the hereditary title of Raja. He was educated at Benares and Lucknow, and has for many years been an honorary magistrate. Much of his property lies in Sitapur and Bahraich, but in this district he holds a valuable estate of 51 villages and three mahals in the Firozabad pargana, assessed at Rs. 32,815.

Khairigarh.

Another important Rajput taluqdar of this district is the owner of the large estate of Khairigarh in the north. The taluqa is of recent formation, as at the beginning of the nineteenth century the family possessed no land in Kheri. They claim to be Surajbansis and trace their descent to the ancient kings of Ajodhya. In very early days they settled in Kaphar in Kumaun, where they reigned for 42 generations; thence they migrated to Katham, which remained their home for 39 more generations; and thence again to Ajmer in Nepal, the capital of a tract of twenty-two parganas given as dowry by the king of Bhot to his son-in-law, Triloki Pal. The twentieth descendant of the latter was Arjun Mal, who flourished in the days of Akbar. The family is thus of some antiquity, at least according to their own account; but their merits were hardly recognised by the Rajputs of the plains, and when they married their daughters to the Ahbans, Janwars or Raikwars, they had to pay large sums as bribes. Unfortunately none of the places mentioned are traceable in any maps, and this has been adduced as throwing discredit on the family history. Arjun Mal is said to have visited Akbar and to have greatly impressed that sovereign by a proof of his descent from the sun in breaking in pieces all vessels of inferior metal by the power of the divine effulgence that still emanated from his person. He was honoured with a *jagir* and the title of Maharaja, while his tribute was fixed at 25 pieces of gold, five ponies, eleven yaks' tails, and fifteen musk-deer. The descendant of this illustrious personage, of whom unfortunately

there is no mention by the historians, was Dip Singh, who lived in Doti. His daughter was asked in marriage by Ram Bahadur Sah, the Gurkha ruler of Nepal, and a refusal was followed by war in 1790, the result being that the Surajbansis were expelled from Doti.

The family claim to have always held Kanchanpur, the tract to the north of Khairigarh; but the assertion is doubtful, and it would seem that the pargana was held by Brahmans when it was conquered by the British and ceded to the latter with Khairigarh after the Nepal war. On their expulsion from Doti the Surajbansis wandered about for forty years, taking service under the British Government and the Oudh nobles. They had attempted to settle in Khairigarh, but were driven out by Rao Ram Singh, the Banjara chieftain. They then fled to Rampur, but afterwards returned to Oudh and obtained Basantpur in Bhur from Rao Balwant Singh and Kalbaria in Khairigarh from the Banjaras. The two sons of Dip Singh were Pirthipal Sah and Raj Ganga Sah, who aided the British in the Gurkha war, the former obtaining a perpetual pension of Rs. 2,400 a year, which his descendants still enjoy. In 1821 Raj Ganga Sah attacked the Brahman chieftain of Kanchanpur, took him prisoner, and drowned him in the Chauka, near Marauncha ghat. He thus acquired Kanchanpur, and in 1830 he turned upon the Banjaras whom he defeated and drove out of Khairigarh. In 1841 the Banjaras invoked the aid of the Oudh authorities, but Ganga Sah withdrew to the fort of Newalkhar and the opposing forces perished almost to a man in the deadly climate of the forest. At the summary settlement the right of Raja Randhuj Sah to the whole of the two parganas was admitted; but in 1859 Kanchanpur was transferred to Nepal, and by way of compensation the Raja obtained a large share, 78 square miles in extent, of the confiscated estates of Dhaurahra and Lakhanwara. He was succeeded by Raja Indra Bikram Sah, who died in 1885, leaving three widows, of whom the eldest is Rani Surat Kunwar, a daughter of Thakur Bhup Sah of Achan in Nepal. The estate was for some time under the management of the Court of Wards. It consists of the whole pargana of Khairigarh, excluding the reserved forest, and comprising 60 villages; the Majhra estate

of 24 villages in Paila; 20 villages forming the Kafara property in Dhaurahra; three villages of Nighasan and three in Srinagar. The whole is assessed at Rs. 71,966. The Rani's residence is at Singahi in Khairigarh.

Paila. The only other resident Hindu taluqdar is a Kurmi, Rai Ram Din Bahadur of Paila. He belongs to a colony of Kurmis who have been settled in Paila for many centuries. His father, Rai Tula Ram Bahadur, the son of Debi Parshad, rendered loyal service during the mutiny and was rewarded with a portion of the confiscated estate of Raja Lone Singh. He died in 1871 and was succeeded by his son, the present taluqdar, on whom the title of Rai Bahadur was bestowed as a personal honour in 1873. The taluqa at present consists of nine villages and one mahal in pargana Paila, three villages and one mahal in Haidarabad, one village, Sakhetu, in Srinagar and the Harinagar grant in Magdapur. The whole is assessed at Rs. 11,215.

Maswasi. Mahant Harcharan Das of Maswasi in Unao is a Nanak-shahi Faqir and the successor of Mahant Gur Narain Das, who made large purchases of land in different parts of Oudh before annexation and afterwards obtained a taluqdari *sanad.* His possessions in this district consisted in 1860 of the Bhenda estate in Pasgawan and Barwar, assessed at Rs. 4,231. The property is now known as Gulrai and comprises fourteen villages in Pasgawan and one in Muhamdi, paying a revenue of Rs. 8,320. The mahant was educated at the Canning College, and the taluqa was administered by the Court of Wards during his minority.

Partabgarh. The Sombansi Raja of Qila Partabgarh must be included among the taluqdars of Kheri, although the bulk of his possessions lie in the Partabgarh district. Raja Ajit Singh of Taraul, the adoptive father of the present Raja, acquired an enormous estate in Partabgarh in reward for his services to the British during the mutiny, and also a large property in Gonda. The latter was subsequently restored to the former owner and the Raja obtained in exchange lands in Hardoi and Unao and the Aurangabad and Aliganj estates in this district. These formed portions of the confiscated Mitauli taluqa, and subsequent additions were made by purchase, chiefly from the European grantees. The

property, which passed to Raja Partab Bahadur Singh in 1889, now consists of 19 villages and one mahal in pargana Paila, five villages and two mahals in Pasgawan, three villages and two mahals in Muhamdi, three villages in Bhur, three in Haidarabad, and one mahal in Aurangabad. The whole is assessed at Rs. 14,373.

Sarawan-Baragaon. There are several other Hindu taluqdars who own land in Kheri, but all reside in other districts and their possessions here are very small save in one instance. This exception is the Kayasth taluqdar of Sarawan-Baragaon in Hardoi. The history of his family will be found in the volume on that district.* Raja Dhanpat Rai and Raja Fateh Chand, who were cousins and together held the Sarawan-Baragaon taluqa, rendered loyal service to the British in the pacification of the Hardoi district in 1858, and in reward obtained the estate known as Sirsawa Bilahra, a portion of the confiscated properties of Dhaurahra and Lakhanwara, then yielding Rs. 39,891 in the parganas of Srinagar and Dhaurahra. In 1860 their estates were partitioned, Dhanpat retaining 13 villages, the other seven going to Amir Chand, one of the sons of Fateh Chand. The latter was succeeded in 1887 by his son, Narendra Bahadur, while Dhanpat Rai, who died in 1867, left his property to his eldest son, Kunwar Durga Parshad, the present taluqdar of Sarawan. At present the Kheri possessions of this family comprise the Sarsawa estate of fourteen villages in Dhaurahra and six villages of Srinagar, paying a revenue of Rs. 12,905.

Khajurgaon. The others call for very brief mention. The Rana of Khajurgaon in Rai Bareli owns two villages in pargana Bhur, assessed at Rs. 1,150 and known as the Kharohia estate, which were acquired by Sir Shankar Bakhsh Singh. Another Bais taluqdar, but of a different family, is Thakur Jawahir Singh **Basaidih.** of Basaidih in Sitapur, who has purchased one village in **Kanhmau.** Haidarabad. His kinsman, Thakur Baldeo Singh of Kanhmau in Sitapur, owns one mahal of Udaipur in the Kasta pargana, a portion of the estate granted to Thakur Beni Singh for his loyalty during the mutiny, the village having formerly been included in the Mitauli taluqa.

* Gazetteer of Hardoi, p. 84.

In a similar manner Seth Murli Manohar, the Khattri taluqdar of Muiz-ud-dinpur in Sitapur, acquired a small property in pargana Kasta, known as Daranagar, and consisting at present of one village and one mahal. It is now held by his son, Seth Raghubar Dayal, at a revenue of Rs. 2,450. **Muiz-ud-dinpur.**

The Gaurs of Katesar in Sitapur at one time had considerable possessions in the south of the district; but they were driven back by the Musalmans of Muhamdi, and also by the Janwars, who recovered all their lost estates. At the present time only one village, Khanipur Raipur in pargana Dhaurahra, is held by the Katesar taluqdar, who pays for it a revenue of Rs. 350. **Katesar.**

The Musalman Ahbans still hold a large amount of land in the district, the remnants of the vast estates once owned by members of this clan, both Hindu and Muhammadan, and three of their properties are classed as taluqas. In Sleeman's time all Bhurwara was the property of the Ahbans and was divided into four parts known as Haidarabad, Karanpur, Aliganj and Sikandarabad, which afterwards became separate parganas; but these four shares were again greatly subdivided, and there was no raja exercising authority over the clan. The first of the Ahbans to become a Musalman was, it is said, Raja Mul Sah, who went to Dehli during the reign of Shahjahan. From him in later days came two brothers, Baz Khan and Fateh Khan, and during their time till all Bhurwara was seized by the Saiyids of Barwar, as will be recorded in the history of the district. Both brothers left numerous descendants, and after the overthrow of the Muhamdi house the Ahbans recovered most of their lost possessions. Baz Khan had twelve sons, of whom eight left no issue, while from the two eldest, Sangi Khan and Tarbiat Khan, come the taluqdars of Kotwara, Jalalpur and Raipur, and the zamindars of Bhurwara, Ghursi, Amethi and elsewhere. Fateh Khan's descendants moved north and settled around Kukra and Gola, acquiring between 1821 and 1832 a large tract of country. During the ten years preceding annexation the Ahbans suffered very heavily at the hands of their kinsman of Mitauli and the taluqdars of Oel and Mahewa. Lone Singh seized Kukra and Mailani; the Raja of Oel swallowed up Bhurwara, Chaurathia, and Siathu; and the Thakur of **The Ahbans' estates.**

Mahewa took Bansi and Saunkhia Sansarpur. They thus were deprived of 72 villages, all mortgaged or sold for very inadequate sums and under great pressure; the owner of Siathu being subjected to torture and threatened with death. Subsequently somewhat less than half of these were recovered by redemption of the mortgages, and in 1860 there were several large estates owned by the Ahbans. In addition to the three taluqas there were the Musalman properties of Chaurathia, Gola and Kukra and the Hindu estates of Bansi and Saunkhia Sansarpur, as well as many smaller properties in Aliganj, Haidarabad and Paila.

Jalalpur.

Tarbiat Khan had three sons, the eldest being Muhammad Hasan Khan, who held Jalalpur in Sleeman's day, when he owned twelve *nankar* villages in addition to his share in the family estate. He was succeeded by Ibad-ullah Khan, with whom the summary settlement was made, for 13 villages in Aliganj under the name of Agar Buzurg at Rs. 5,752. During his lifetime he made over the property to his son, Niamat-ullah Khan, who died in 1868 and was succeeded by his widow. At her death in 1884 a relative, named Muhammad Lutf-ullah Khan, obtained the estate by purchase. His property now consists of the Mirzapur taluqa of eleven villages and one mahal in pargana Bhur, and two villages, known as the Jalalpur estate, in Paila. The whole is assessed at Rs. 8,626.

Kotwara.

From the second son of Tarbiat Khan come the zamindars of Bhurwara and Chaurathia, and from a third came Madar Bakhsh, who in 1827 compiled a large estate with the aid of the revenue officials. He held it till annexation and engaged for the Kotwara taluqa at the summary settlement. He died in 1859 and the property, then comprising 24 villages in Karanpur and Haidarabad, assessed at Rs. 6,617, passed to his widow, Chand Bibi, who held it for her infant son, Azmat-ullah Khan. The latter died, and the widow continued in possession till her death in 1886. She was succeeded by her daughter's son, Saiyid Raza Husain, whom she had adopted. His property now consists of 14 whole villages and two mahals in pargana Haidarabad, and the Rampur Gokul estate of eleven villages and two mahals in Paila; the whole paying a revenue of Rs. 10,902. He also owns the small estate of Pachhim Bilaon in Bara Banki.

Raipur.

The third taluqdar of this stock is descended from Bahadur Khan, a younger son of Baz Khan. His descendants all settled in the Sikandarabad pargana, and by degrees amassed a considerable estate. The family records say that Dhaka was acquired in 1802, and Roshannagar four years later; in 1819 three, and in 1829 five more villages were added. Six more were subsequently included in the estate between 1844 and 1851. Bahadur Khan was followed by Roshan Khan, and then by Khudadad Khan. The eldest son of the latter was Lal Khan, who engaged for the Raipur taluqa in pargana Sikandarabad at the summary settlement, the revenue being Rs. 6,299. His son, Husain Khan, predeceased him, and at his death in 1873 he was succeeded by his grandson, Muhammad Sher Khan, the present taluqdar. The estate at present comprises 14 villages and one mahal in Haidarabad, and the village of Pipra and one mahal of Kondri in Paila. For these he pays a revenue of Rs. 7,430.

Shahpur.

The largest Musalman estate in the district is that of Bahadurnagar or Shahpur, as it is now called, after the village of that name in pargana Muhamdi. This taluqa represents all that is left of the vast estates of the Saiyids of Pihani and Barwar, and their successors at Muhamdi. The story of the Saiyids and of the converted Sombansi, Raja Ibad-ullah Khan, and his descendants will be found in the history of the district. Ibad-ullah held possession of all the old pargana of Barwar Anjana and all Bhurwara, the ancestral estate of the Ahbans. He was succeeded in 1737 by his son, Mahbub Ali, who left his property to his son, Ghulam Muhammad, in 1752. The latter was murdered in 1757 by his uncle, Ali Akbar Khan; who held the taluqa for his lifetime, during which he was driven out of Muhamdi by the Gaurs whom he afterwards defeated with Rohilla aid at Mailani. In 1775 Ghulam Nabi Khan, brother of Ghulam Muhammad, succeeded his uncle, but got into trouble with the revenue authorities and died in prison at Lucknow in 1792. The estate was then broken up, and in 1779 the chakladar, Mansa Ram, settled the lands with the old proprietors, Bachhils, Ahbans and Kurmis, although many villages were left to the dependents of the Saiyids. It was not till 1791 that the deposed family made any effort to recover the lost possessions; then Zahid Ali and Wahid Ali, sons

of Ghulam Nabi Khan, raised a revolt; but this was crushed by the zamindars and the claimants slain, chiefly through the exertions of the Jalalpur Ahbans under Abdullah Khan, who obtained in reward five villages free of rent. Two more sons of Ghulam Nabi followed the same course, but were captured and sent to Lucknow in 1804 by Hakim Mahdi Ali Khan. One of them, Aman Ali Khan, was released at the intercession of his mother, and after swearing to remain peacable obtained six villages from the nazim.* The latter, when he lost his office in 1820, signed a paper to the effect that Aman Ali had always received a tribute of two rupees from each village of the old estate, and this claim was admitted by his successor, Param Dhan. Aman Ali Khan died in 1837 and was succeeded by his son, Raja Ashraf Ali Khan, who at first only held the six villages, but in 1851 he obtained the lease of 55 others, which he held till annexation. He subsequently received a taluqdari *sanad*, and at the summary settlement engaged for an estate paying a revenue of Rs. 12,565 in the parganas of Muhamdi, Haidarabad, Pasgawan and Magdapur. He might have obtained much more, and probably would have done so had he dreamt that he should be declared proprietor of lands so easily acquired, for in 1855 he executed a deed transferring his rights in Atwa Piparia to Fida Husain Khan, brother of the chakladar. This property was 64 square miles in area, and had yielded Rs. 25,000; the consideration was a silver-mounted sword. Raja Ashraf Ali Khan, whose title was declared hereditary in 1864, died three years later and was succeeded by his son, Raja Musharraf Ali Khan, who engaged for the estate at the regular settlement in 1868. Being heavily embarrassed, the property was taken over for a time under the Encumbered Estates Act. He was succeeded by his widow, Rani Sahib Jan, at whose death in February, 1881, the property passed to her son, Raja Muzaffar Ali Khan. He died in 1895 at the age of 28, and the taluqa has since been held by his widow, Rani Sarfaraz Begam. The family are generally styled Saiyids, but in reality are converted Sombansis; the Rani is a daughter of the late Raja of Nanpara in Bahraich. The property comprises at the present time the Shahpur estate of 21 villages and

* Sleeman, Tour in Oude, II, p. 74.

two mahals in Muhamdi, the Magdapur estate of 25 villages and one mahal in Magdapur, the Ahmadnagar estate of five villages in Haidarabad, the village of Narsinghpur in Kukra, and Bankagaon in Pasgawan. The whole is assessed at Rs. 28,255. The Rani also owns the Mangauria property of two villages in the Bahraich district.

Muhammadpur. The taluqdar of Jalalpur in Hardoi is also a Saiyid, but he comes of an old Musalman family, and is not merely a Saiyid by courtesy like the Rajas of Bahadurnagar. His inclusion among the taluqdars of this district is of comparatively recent date, as prior to the mutiny the family held no land in Kheri. Maulvi Fazal Rasul of Jalalpur, in reward for services rendered against the rebels in the neighbourhood of Sandila, obtained a grant of land producing an income of Rs. 3,000 out of the confiscated estates of Dhaurahra and Lakhanwara. This property consisted of six villages and was known by the name of Muhammadpur. The Maulvi died in 1879 and left his property to his son, Maulvi Fazal Husain, who held it till his death in 1901, when he was succeeded by his son, Saiyid Iltifat Rasul, the present owner. The bulk of the taluqa lies in Hardoi, but there are other portions in Sitapur, Unao and Lucknow.* The Kheri estate comprises the original six villages of Muhammadpur in pargana Dhaurahra, now assessed at Rs. 2,835.

Mahmudabad. The only other Musalman taluqdar who now holds any land in this district is the Raja of Mahmudabad of the great family of Sheikh Khanzadas in Sitapur. His possessions in Kheri have been but recently acquired. A large portion of the confiscated taluqa of Mitauli was bestowed on Captain A. P. W. Orr, and was known as the Kasta estate, comprising almost the whole of the pargana of that name. This he soon afterwards sold to Raja Amir Hasan Khan of Mahmudabad, who was succeeded at his death in 1903 by his son, Raja Ali Muhammad Khan, the present taluqdar. Other villages were from time to time acquired by the Raja, and the property in the district now consists of the Kasta estate of 64 villages and one mahal in pargana Kasta, two villages in Paila, and two in Magdapur. The whole pays a revenue of Rs. 46,600.

* Gazetteer of Hardoi, p. 92.

Mamri.

One taluqdari estate is owned by a European, Mr. L. D. Hearsey of Mamri in pargana Haidarabad. This property was originally included in Bhurwara and in later days was absorbed into the great taluqa of Raja Lone Singh of Mitauli. On the confiscation of the latter's estate a portion assessed at Rs. 10,000 was given to Captain W. M. Hearsey, in reward for mutiny services, and from him descended to the present owner. The original estate lay in the parganas of Haidarabad, Bhur, Paila, Kasta and Magdapur, but some of this has been sold. A large addition was subsequently made to the property by the purchase of Atwa Piparia from Captain Fida Husain. The estate now comprises in all 40 villages, 15 mahals, and two pattis, paying a revenue of Rs. 14,387. Of these, twenty villages are in pargana Atwa Piparia; eleven villages, six mahals, and two pattis, known as the Ataria estate in Paila; five villages and six mahals forming the Mamri estate, in Haidarabad; two villages and two mahals in Magdapur; two villages, the Gulariha and Matera grants, in Dhaurahra; and one mahal in Kukra.

Extinct taluqas.

Several taluqdari estates, some of them of great size and importance, have disappeared since annexation. The largest were those confiscated on account of the rebellion of their owners in 1857 and their persistent refusal to surrender. These were the Mitauli estate of Raja Lone Singh, the head of the Ahbans, the Dhaurahra estate of Raja Indra Bikram Sah, a Jangre, and the Lakhanwara estate of Raja Himmat Singh of the same clan. The history of Mitauli belongs to the general history of the district and will be found in Chapter V. The estate was very extensive and was assessed at Rs. 44,424 under the summary settlement. It was distributed among various grantees for loyal services. Captain A. P. Orr, Captain W. M. Hearsey, and Mr. G. Schilling, each obtained portions assessed at Rs. 10,000 and known as Kasta, Kukra and Abgaon respectively. Other shares fell to Captain J. B. Hearsey, the widow of Captain Patrick Orr, Rao Tula Ram of Paila, and six smaller zamindars. The Dhaurahra taluqa paid Rs. 17,240 in this district, and Lakhanwara Rs. 5,910. They were given to a number of persons, the largest shares falling to Captain J. Hearsey, Mrs. Rose, the widow of Captain Patrick Orr,

Saiyid Fazal Rasul of Jalalpur in Hardoi, the Kayasths of Sandila and Sardar Panjab Singh, the rest, excepting the large portion given to the Khairigarh Raja in exchange for Kanchanpur, went in smaller portions to five other loyal grantees. Mrs. Rose's estate was subsequently sold, and so were those of the other Europeans except Captain W. M. Hearsey, the purchasers being the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala and the Rajas of Partabgarh and Mahmudabad. Another vanished taluqa was Atwa Piparia, owned by Captain Fida Husain Khan, who was the son of Muhammad Hasan Khan, a Saiyid of Budaun. The former was in the Oudh service as also was his brother, Muhammad Husain, at one time chakladar of Muhamdi. Both of these obtained large grants of land, the latter in Sitapur, and both lost them. Captain Fida Husain held the lease of Atwa Piparia before annexation, having received it about 1853 from Raja Ashraf Ali Khan, and was declared proprietor as a taluqdar after the mutiny. His property included 32 villages, all of which were sold about 1880 under a decree of the civil court, the chief purchaser being Mr. Hearsey of Mamri.

Zamindari estates.

A few of the źamindari properties are of sufficient size to deserve separate mention. Reference has already been made to some of these in the foregoing pages, such as the Musalman and Hindu Ahbans and the Saiyids of the Muhamdi house. It has been shown how the Ahbans of Bhurwara recovered many of their lost possessions after the fall of the Saiyids. One of these properties was that of Jamethia or Chaurathia. The owner, Muhammad Hasan Khan, mortgaged his property to the Rajas of Oel and Mahewa, and at annexation the deeds were found in the latter's possession. He sued, however, for redemption of mortgage and ultimately obtained a decree for possession from the Privy Council. He was succeeded by Habib-ullah Khan, who engaged for Rs. 3,007 at the summary settlement. The latter was followed by Khalil-ullah Khan, the present owner, who was appointed an honorary magistrate and an honorary munsif in 1882. He resides at Bhurwara, and his property now consists of 16 villages and one mahal in Bhur, and one village and six shares in Paila; the whole is assessed at Rs. 9,142.

Chaurathia.

Kukra. The Kukra estate was also regained by the Ahbans, but was afterwards absorbed on the terms of a mortgage into the vast taluqa of Raja Lone Singh. On its confiscation it was given to Captain Hearsey, but with the condition that the mortgaged villages should remain separate till the decision of the settlement officer. In June, 1870, these villages and some others were decreed in favour of Abd-ul-Ahad Khan, who had given them in mortgage originally. He was succeeded by his sons, Abd-ul-Ghani and Abd-ur-Rahman Khan, who now hold 13 villages in pargana Kukra at a revenue of Rs. 2,750.

Bansi. The only large estate remaining to the Hindu Ahbans is that of Bansi in Bhur, which consists of one whole village and shares in six others. A century ago this was held by Mithan Singh, who rebelled against the Government and was killed fighting in 1839. His property was taken under direct management, but three years later was handed over to his son, Hardeo Bakhsh Singh. According to the family custom, the latter's cousin, Bariar Singh, obtained a half share in the property, and the summary settlement was made with both, Hardeo Bakhsh engaging for Rs. 2,255. He died leaving two widows, who still survive. Bariar Singh left a minor son, Ambar Singh, who was educated under the Court of Wards at the Colvin School in Lucknow and came into possession of the property in 1903.

Nakara. The Bachhils have but little left them of their former estates. In Aurangabad, however, one fair-sized property remains. This is known as Nakara, and consists of eight villages paying Rs. 3,540 in revenue. In 1819 it was taken from the Bachhils and bestowed on Mir Muhammad Quli of Pihani; but being subsequently confiscated it was restored in 1830 to Kanh Singh, who lived to engage at the summary settlement in 1859. In 1863 he was succeeded by Gopal Singh, whose two sons, Gajraj Singh and Jaipal Singh, are now in possession.

Aurangabad. It has been already narrated how Raja Ashraf Ali Khan of Muhamdi regained some portion of the family estates. The Aurangabad property, which was confiscated with the rest on the death of Ghulam Muhammad Khan, was in 1799 given in lease by Hakim Mahdi Ali Khan to Saiyid Jamrat Ali of Aurangabad. It was then held in succession by several zamindars, till

in 1855 it was leased to Ashiq Ali, a descendant of Saiyid Khurram of Barwar, the last of the direct line of Sadr Jahan to hold the estate. He left two daughters, one of whom was Jafri Begam, who married a distant connection, Saiyid Tasadduq Husain. By a family arrangement this man was entrusted with the management of the whole estate, but the share of the elder sister has been recently separated. He now holds six villages and shares in 21 others in Aurangabad, assessed at Rs. 4,339, and three villages and two shares in Pasgawan paying Rs. 1,078.

Magrahna. The Magrahna property of six villages and one share in Muhamdi, assessed at Rs. 4,865, is held by Mir Abd-us-Samad Khan, a relative of the Musalman Sombansis of Bahadurnagar. The estate which was for some time under direct management was given in 1797 by Hakim Mahdi Ali Khan to Asad Ali Khan in *nankar*. It descended to Abu Ali, who engaged at the summary settlement, and then to the present owner.

Aira. Lastly, there are the Sikh estates of Aira and Raini in Dhaurahra. The latter was given from the confiscated Dhaurahra taluqa to Sardar Panjab Singh for his loyal services in the mutiny. His son, Jwala Singh, purchased the adjoining property of Aira from Mr. Sutherland. His sons, Sardar Sant Singh and Sardar Jogendra Singh, are now in possession. The former holds Raini, a property of ten villages and one share assessed at Rs. 4,320; and the latter Aira, which comprises twelve villages paying Rs. 5,775.

Rents. Rents are paid either in cash or in kind, and of the latter there are several forms. Grain rents fall into two main divisions, known as *batai* or the partition of the grain on the threshing-floor in a fixed proportion between landlord and tenant, and *kankut*, whereby the produce of the field is appraised before harvest and the landlord's share is thus determined. The former is as rare in Kheri as it is common in Sitapur. Occasionally a peculiar system is to be found whereby a fixed proportion of so many maunds per *bigha* of a particular crop is paid to the proprietor; but *kankut* is almost universally adopted. This is of two kinds, but the essential features are the same throughout. The gross produce of the standing crop is estimated, a deduction of ten per cent. is made to cover village dues and expenses known as *kharch*,

and after further deductions for tenants' privileges in the shape of *kur* and the like, the landlord's share, which commonly amounts to one-half, is calculated on the remainder. The difference between the two forms comes in at this point: under simple *kankut* the share is paid in grain; while under *darkati kankut* it is converted into cash at rates somewhat higher than the current harvest prices in order to allow for the subsequent rise. The usual practice is to take the current bazar prices some three months after harvests; these are reported by *ziladars* and the price is fixed for the estate after a comparison of their returns. A portion of the rent is as a result of this system generally realized on account. The privilege known as *kur* was originally a concession made to high-caste tenants who were forbidden to handle the plough; but it was often extended as a favour to others and now is granted according to local circumstances. In good tracts where tenants are not in demand, it is allowed to high-caste tenants, specially good cultivators, headmen, founders of hamlets and tenants personally favoured by the landlord for any particular reason. In the bad tracts, where there is a demand for cultivators, it is granted to most tenants as an inducement to settle or to take up new land. The other privileges are of the same nature as those which are found in Sitapur; but where *kankut* prevails the landlord generally makes a deduction of an anna in the rupee to cover the whole.

Cash-rents. Cash rents also present some variety. In most villages there are special rates for tobacco, poppy and garden crops around the village sites, though it is not always clear whether the rates are attached to the fields or to the crop. In some cash-paying and in all grain-rented villages these crops, as well as sugarcane and turmeric, pay specially high rents, at rates which have in most cases been long established; the usual method of enhancement in old days was effected by a reduction in the size of the local *bigha*, but this has become impossible since the survey, which has stereotyped the standard of area. Another special system is that known as *nakshi*, which is common in many parts of the district and notably so beyond the Chauka. It is said that this system comes from Nepal and that the term is a corruption of *naqdi*. There is a recognised rate for each crop for

every local *bigha*, and this rate varies from village to village and from tenant to tenant. The leading features of the system are that the rents are always paid in cash not for the whole year but for each harvest; the landlord can claim no rent if the crop has been swept away by floods or otherwise destroyed, the area thus damaged being deducted under the term *nabud*; the tenant can if he choose leave the land fallow and pay no rent; and lastly a certain proportion of the land is uncharged with rent, the allowance being known as *chhut* and amounting to one, two, or even four *biswas* in the *bigha*, according to the caste of the tenant, the demand for cultivators and other circumstances. On the other hand, tenants pay *kharch* or village expenses, at rates which vary from six pies to as much as five annas in the rupee. The conditions affecting *chhut* and *kharch* vary greatly, but are much the same as the allowances and deductions given and taken under the system of grain rents. It will thus be seen that *nakshi* is a hybrid system resembling a produce rent in its dependence on the number of sowings, the area sown and the outturn of the crop, but in its independence of prices it has one of the characteristics of ordinary cash rents. It tends in practice to approach the latter with a series of good seasons and with high prices prevailing; but the tendency is at once checked in favourable years and could never go far by reason of the large areas of land awaiting cultivation in the neighbourhood. Of all systems *nakshi* is the most favourable to the tenants, and its existence is a proof that cultivators are in strong demand, and therefore able to make their own terms. One of its great advantages is that a tenant can leave a field fallow for a year or two, paying no rents, and when he returns to it again and obtains a magnificent crop he has to pay no more than for a poor one.

Prevailing rates.

Ordinary cash rents are still very low in this district, although they have risen appreciably during recent years. They are naturally very uneven, owing to the great variety in the physical characteristics of different parts of the district. At the time of the first regular settlement the highest rents to be found anywhere were Rs. 16·5 per acre for tobacco land and Rs. 13·5 for sugarcane in Haidarabad. Common rates for average land

near the village site were from Rs. 6 to Rs. 8 per acre; but in the less-developed parganas large areas of land were rented at a rupee or even less, outlying fields in Palia, Kukra and Bhur generally averaging no more than eight annas. These low rates were usually offered with the direct object of inducing cultivators to settle, and the system is said to have produced most successful results in pargana Bhur. At the last settlement the average recorded cash rate for the whole district was Rs. 3·36 per acre. In the upland villages the averages were Rs. 6 for *goind*, Rs. 4 for *manjhar* and Rs. 2 for *palo*; while in the lowlying tracts they were about Rs. 4·5, Rs. 3, and Re. 1·5 respectively. The rates of course vary from pargana to pargana, and for this reference may be made to the various pargana articles. Generally speaking, it may be said that rents are highest in the upland portions of the Lakhimpur tahsil and in the east of Muhamdi, the rate in Kheri being actually higher than anywhere else; they are lowest, as is only to be expected, in the precarious tracts beyond the Chauka and in the forest pargana of Kukra Mailani. Even in the same pargana, however, many striking variations are to be found depending on numerous conditions, such as the caste of the tenant, his residence or non-residence in the village which he cultivates, the size of the holdings, the circumstances of the landlord, and the general historic conditions. Caste is a most important factor, and for the whole district the advantage of the high caste tenant amounts to nearly two annas in the rupee. In the south it is about 20 per cent., while in Firozabad, where the high caste tenants have always been very strong, the advantage is as much as 42 per cent. The best cultivators, as usual, pay the highest rates. Muraos and Kurmis at the last settlement came first with general average rates of Rs. 4·03 and Rs. 4·18 respectively; at the other hand came Rajputs with Rs. 2·92 and Kayasths with Rs. 2·35. The holdings are everywhere large—an almost necessary feature of a backward district. At the first regular settlement they averaged 4·5 acres for resident and 2·72 acres for non-resident cultivators, while at the last assessment the figures were 4·39 and 2·4 acres respectively. As usual, the holdings are largest in the case of Rajputs and all high-caste cultivators, but the average for Kurmis is remarkably

high, amounting to over five acres. That this results from an insufficient supply of cultivators is shown by the fact that the average cash rental is markedly higher in villages where the average holdings are smaller than in those in which they exceed the general average of the district. Residence is another important factor, for an unusually large proportion of the land is held by non-resident tenants, amounting to 23 per cent. of the whole tenant area at the last settlement. This inevitably has a great effect on the average rent-rate, as throughout the district residents paid Rs. 3·62 in cash-rented lands and non-residents only Rs. 2·49, giving the latter an advantage of 31·2 per cent., this being again a proof of the backwardness of the tract. Rents are also largely affected by the nature of the proprietary tenure, being least in the estates of taluqdars and highest on those of the poor proprietors. This is the case throughout Oudh, and here in Kheri, while taluqdari lands paid on an average Rs. 3·18, holdings in zamindari and coparcenary properties fetched Rs. 3·67 and Rs. 3·96 respectively; but it should be remembered that in this district the estates of the smaller proprietors are almost all situated in the more stable and fertile tracts. The influence of historic condition is vague, but considerable. For instance, there is a tendency for cash rents to remain low if they have been converted from grain rents at a time when low prices prevail. Further, cash rents imposed when the cultivators were prosperous are as a rule constantly raised by small enhancements, while those imposed when the tenants are poor either remain stationary or break down altogether.

Conversion of rents.

The actual proportion of the land held on grain-rents to the total tenant area varies greatly according to local circumstances. At the last settlement slightly more than 40 per cent. was thus held, but the ratio is far greater in the more precarious tracts than in the settled parganas of the south. In addition to this, about one-seventh of the land was cultivated by tenants paying rent under the *nakshi* system. During the currency of the first regular settlement there was a marked tendency to convert produce rents into cash payments, and the movement is still in active operation. Under normal conditions conversions result from a reduction in the size of agricultural holdings which attends increasing

population, as with the reduced area additional effort is required on the part of the cultivator, and the inducement is provided by cash rents, which not only assure to the tenant the fruits of his labour, but increase the actual profits of his cultivation, enabling him to tide over bad seasons with the savings of prosperous years. "The system of *kankut* is unpopular, because of its uncertainty, its liability to abuse, and its delays injurious to the ripened crop; and recent high prices have stimulated the tenants to demand cash rents. The enjoyment of high profits by appraisement with high prices, and the restrictions placed by the Rent Act on enhancement, induce the landlords to insist on high initial cash rents as the price of conversion. Rents which are much too high permanently for the large holdings are thus being imposed; much of the land now getting cash rents is really too precarious to bear them; and a fall in prices will almost certainly lead to a collapse of these new rents if not to a reversion to *kankut*."* In the northern and eastern parganas it will probably be long before grain-rents disappear, as their maintenance is practically necessitated by the extreme precariousness of the outturn. It is also probable that rates will remain very low in the north on account of the unfavourable nature of the climate and the expense and uncertainty involved in settling new tenants.

Condition of the people.

The condition of the people varies with their local surroundings. In spite of their large holdings and low rents, the Kheri tenants are not as a rule more prosperous than those in highly-developed districts, as with the exception of a few castes the cultivators will not exert themselves beyond the point of mere subsistence at a given standard of comfort. As already mentioned, improvement will doubtless come with external pressure resulting in reduced holdings and higher rents. In the south of the district the standard of living and comfort of the cultivators does not materially differ from that of their neighbours in Sitapur; but beyond the Chauka, and also in a portion of the area between that river and the Ul other conditions prevail. The unhealthiness of the climate and the precariousness of the cultivation are a bar to steady work: the people are as a rule of poor physique and are incapable of, or disinclined to, much exertion; their

* Final Report, p. 4.

houses are miserable-looking structures of wattle and thatch; and they themselves have but a poor opinion of their own capacity. As to their material condition, different officers in former years have taken widely different views. Mr. McMinn, who settled a large portion of the district, considered the condition of the majority of the agricultural peasantry to be "wretched in the extreme. Their clothing is insufficient, and their food is an unwholesome diet, unless most carefully harvested. The rural population are compelled in large numbers to watch their fields at night in order to preserve them from the depredations of wild animals. They are perched upon platforms elevated eight feet above the ground and thinly covered with brushwood or thatch. During the winter months the cold in these cages is extreme. As a rule, the watchers possess a blanket—often the only one in the family—but not unfrequently it is found that the whole household cannot muster a single blanket to protect the field-watcher from the inclemency of the weather."* On the other hand, Mr. Redfern, in his settlement report of 1879, wrote: "The cultivators of Kheri on the whole fare better and are better clad than in districts which have made great progress and yield a larger revenue per acre. Particularly in the northern parganas, where rents are low beyond belief, the distribution of wealth approaches, *magno intervallo,* the philosophic ideal. The men, though they may be worn by night watchings and shaken by ague, retain a large share of the earth's produce, and the profusion of ornaments which the women display on ankle and arm is excellent evidence that a surplus remains to be saved after necessities have been provided."† He added, however, that in the southern parganas indebtedness was very prevalent, and this fact as well as the absence of capital prevented cultivators from migrating to the unoccupied lands in the centre and north of the district and so retarded the general development.

* Gazetteer of Oudh, II, p. 191. | † Settlement Report, p. 17.

CHAPTER IV.

Revenue and Administration.

District staff.

The district is in the charge of a Deputy Commissioner, who is subject to the control of the Commissioner of the Lucknow division. The magisterial and revenue staff consists ordinarily of three Deputy Collectors and three tahsildars. Besides these there are several honorary magistrates. In 1905 Rajendra Bahadur Singh and Lala Tulsi Ram had third-class powers in the municipality and police circle of Lakhimpur: Raja Muneshwar Bakhsh Singh of Mallanpur had second-class powers within the limits of his estate in the Isanagar police circle; Muhammad Khalil-ullah Khan had similar powers in the Bhira and Gola thanas; Saiyid Tasadduq Husain had third-class powers in the Mitauli circle; and Lala Babu Lal in Dhaurahra and Nighasan. The district lies within the jurisdiction of the civil and sessions Judge of Sitapur. There is a subordinate judge at headquarters and one munsif, also posted at Lakhimpur. Muhammad Khalil-ullah Khan is also an honorary munsif for pargana Bhur, and Sardar Jogendra Singh of Aira for pargana Dhaurahra. The remaining staff includes the superintendent of police, the civil surgeon, assistant surgeon, district surveyor, the deputy conservator of forests, the assistant conservator, the head-master of the high school, and the postmaster.

Formation of the district.

The district as a separate subdivision dates only from after the mutiny. At annexation the parganas now comprising the district of Kheri were divided between the two districts of Muhamdi and Mallanpur, which also included parts of Hardoi and Sitapur. The Mallanpur district comprised the land between the Ghagra or Kauriala and the Chauka; its headquarters were at Mallanpur, now in pargana Tambaur of Sitapur. The rest was known as Muhamdi, and the Deputy Commissioner was stationed at that place. Both situations were very inconvenient, and most

inaccessible. After the reoccupation of Oudh the headquarters were fixed at Lakhimpur—a more central spot, although some of the villages are nearly sixty miles distant. The district was for some time still known as Muhamdi, the name being changed to Kheri in 1864, although it is frequently called Lakhimpur from the location of the headquarters at that place.

Subdivisions. The revenue subdivisions consist of three tahsils and seventeen parganas. The central or Lakhimpur tahsil comprises the five parganas of Kheri, Paila, Srinagar, Bhur and Kukra Mailani. The south-western tahsil is known as Muhamdi and is a compact block made up of the seven parganas of Muhamdi, Atwa Piparia, Magdapur, Haidarabad, Kasta, Aurangabad and Pasgawan. The third tahsil is Nighasan, which is a long and narrow tract in the north and east, and includes the five parganas of Nighasan, Palia, Khairigarh, Dhaurahra and Firozabad. The sub-divisional arrangements prior to British rule will be dealt with in the following chapter. Each of the tahsils and parganas will be separately described in the second half of this volume. Up to 1869 there were four other parganas in the district which were subsequently assorted into the larger sub-divisions. These were Barwar, now amalgamated with Pasgawan; Sikandarabad, which was the southern portion of the present Haidarabad; Basara, which comprised the south-eastern corner of the existing pargana of Kheri; and Karanpur, the name given to the northern half of Paila.

Fiscal history. The fiscal history of Kheri consequently dates from its constitution as a separate district. At annexation a summary settlement of the land revenue was made in Muhamdi and Mallanpur by the Deputy Commissioners, based on the old records, but all traces of this were destroyed in the mutiny, and not even the total revenue is known.

Summary settlement. In 1858-59 a second summary settlement was made again by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. W. C. Wood, who was succeeded by Major Thurburn. The assessment was also based on the old records of the qanungos, from which the assets of each village were roughly calculated, the Government demand being taken at 50 per cent. of the total amount. The taluqdars at the first summary settlement had been treated with much consideration in this district and the number of villages taken from them in 1856 was

small in comparison with the usurpations which had been overlooked. Consequently at the second settlement, which was essentially taluqdari in character, the change in proprietary rights was but small, with the exception of the three estates of Mitauli, Dhaurahra and Lakhanwara which had been confiscated for rebellion. The revenue assessed was necessarily very low, in consideration of the backward state of the district. The total amounted to Rs. 4,91,922, and this was subsequently increased by the assessment of portions of grants which had been settled with lessees and afterwards resumed. The details for each pargana will be found in the appendix.*

First regular settlement.

The first regular settlement of the district began in 1864 with the demarcation of village boundaries and lasted for a very long period, as the resolution of Government on the final report was not published till April 1882. The delay was caused by the fact that the original assessments, which had been completed hurriedly in 1872, were found to require considerable revision, and this process lasted till 1878. The assessment was as usual preceded by a revenue survey, simultaneously with which the field survey of the Settlement Officer was carried on. The first Settlement Officer was Captain Boulderson, who continued to hold the post till October, 1869, when he was succeeded by Mr. McMinn, who carried on the work with the assistance of Mr. J. C. Williams, till 1872. He was then followed by Major E. G. Clark, who was mainly engaged in the work of the revision. Other officers who were employed in the settlement were Mr. Butts, Captain Murray and Mr. T. R. Redfern, who finished up the work and wrote the report.

Captain Boulderson.

The actual assessment began in the cold weather of 1867-68, when Captain Boulderson first estimated the rental of pargana Aurangabad. During the next two years he completed the assessment of the parganas of Pasgawan, Kasta, Paila, Sikandarabad, and the portion of Kheri then known as Basara. In assessing he formed no rent-rates, but merely calculated the rental of each village from the information derived locally. He adopted different systems in the parganas in which cash and kind rents chiefly prevailed. The latter were Barwar and Pasgawan, and were he based his assessment on the traditional rates for each

* Appendix, Table IX.

village, making a distinction between the home lands and the outlying fields. His rates were calculated on the local *bigha*, and this was often difficult to ascertain, so that he eventually adopted a normal *bigha* for the whole pargana—a step which resulted in some inequality. For lands which paid grain rents he merely relied on the statements of patwaris and zamindars; but he included considerable areas of fallow and waste, which in some cases unduly swelled the assets. In the other parganas his assessments were based on estimates made in each village, from which he computed the average gross produce per *bigha* of the several soil areas. This was valued at a uniform rate and a proportion, generally one-half, was treated as the landlord's share. This proved too high, for in many places the actual proportion was one-third or even one-fourth. The produce was converted into cash at rates derived from the wholesale transactions of the past seven years in the principal bazars. These were again too high, and a year after the assessments were declared he reduced them all round, to the extent of Rs. 7,243, thus allowing a margin ranging from 10 to 16 per cent. on his original estimates.

Mr. McMinn. His successor was Mr. McMinn, who did the assessment of eleven parganas under great pressure, as he was allowed but a year for completing the settlement of more than half the district. He adopted different systems for different parganas, according to the prevailing forms of rent. He began with freely correcting the survey record, especially in the matter of irrigation; but his corrections were based on rough estimates only, and could not consequently be checked. Mr. McMinn first assessed the parganas of Muhamdi, Atwa Piparia, Magdapur, Haidarabad, Kheri and Karanpur in which, according to his view, cash rents generally prevailed. He proceeded to ascertain the rent rates for each class of soil, irrigated and unirrigated, in each pargana by striking an average of individual fields inspected by himself. He included, in anticipation of rapid development, large areas of waste, and his irrigated rates were applied to all land within reach of irrigation; so that when it is remembered that the assessment was made after a series of good seasons with abnormally high prices and that these were followed by several unfavourable years, it is hardy surprising to read that many of the proprietors refused

to engage at the terms offered. Another defect lay in the undoubted preponderance of grain rents in the tract in question, for by ignoring this fact much inferior land was assumed to be equal to the best. In the grain-rented parganas of Dhaurahra and Firozabad Mr. McMinn followed a different system. He divided the villages into two circles, according as they came under the influence of the Chauka or of the Kauriala. He then prepared a set of village rates, a valuation of the gross produce during the four preceding years, and a set of circle rates. The village rates were deduced from selected cash rents; but as the latter were, as now, usually paid for special crops only, they were quite unreliable. The valuation of the produce was based on retail prices in foreign markets for five years, in two of which the prevailing rates were altogether abnormal. The landlord was assigned two-fifths instead of the ordinary one-third of the produce; but the pargana rates were derived from the recorded assets of three large estates, so that the result was inevitably misleading. Lastly, he included a large proportion of fallow which he assessed at two-thirds of the ordinary rate. He applied the same system generally to Kukra Mailani, with the result that while he secured an enormous enhancement only three proprietors accepted the assessments in the three parganas. In the *nakshi* rented parganas of Khairigarh and Paila Mr. McMinn found much deterioration, but ascribed it to wilful abandonment of land in view of the approaching assessment and maintained the cultivated area of the survey records. He classified the villages according to healthiness, accessibility, and their proximity to the forests. He based his rates on what he conceived would be the future rents of the pargana, so that they were very much higher, not only than those then prevailing, but also than those of the present day. As elsewhere, the proprietors declined to sign engagements.

Mr. Williams.

The rest of the district, comprising the parganas of Bhur, Nighasan and Srinagar, were assessed by Mr. J. C. Williams. His method was more orthodox than that of the other officers. He framed circles within which he constituted classes of villages, each demarcated according to soil areas. He then deduced crop-rates for each circle and thence evolved revenue rates, which

were inflexibly applied. He followed Mr. McMinn in taking retail prices, in anticipating a rapid development, and in over-estimating irrigation; but his ascription of certain principal crops to each soil area and his deduction of circle rates from a valuation of their average produce were peculiarly his own. These measures resulted in an enormous increase of revenue, chiefly because of the admitted appropriation of considerably more than half the actual assets; and here again the proprietors generally refused to engage.

Revision of the assessment. The result was a total demand of Rs. 11,88,667, or no less than 140 per cent. in excess of that imposed at the summary assessment. As already mentioned, it broke down completely; in 780 villages out of a total of nearly one thousand assessed by Mr. McMinn and Mr. Williams the proprietors refused to sign the engagement, while in Palia and Khairigarh the new revenue had not yet been introduced. The situation was serious and speedy action was necessary. Colonel E. Clark was sent to the district as Settlement Officer at the end of 1872, and in order to set his hands free to take up the work a temporary suspension of 25 per cent. was made in the eastern parganas. Elsewhere it was eventually directed that waste should not be assessed and that the new demand should be gradually introduced wherever it exceeded the summary assessment by 25 per cent. Very little change was made in Captain Boulderson's work, save that the enhancement of the revenue was spread over a number of years. Colonel Clark began with the revision of the west central parganas assessed by Mr. McMinn, using the data already collected as far as possible, and also referring to the rent-rolls of the preceding seven years. In the tract assessed by Mr. Williams the old system was in general maintained, but only the actual assessable area was treated, the scale of prices used by Captain Boulderson were substituted for the retail rates, and rent and not revenue rates were applied. The eastern parganas were treated in the same way as the cash-rented tracts assessed by Mr. McMinn. The rent-rolls of previous years were taken as the main basis of assessment, the only method possible in a summary settlement of this nature, and care was taken to separate from the rest those lands in which cash rents were paid for special crops. Palia and

Khairigarh were entirely resettled, new circles being framed and circle rates determined from the existing papers.

The settlement was necessarily of the nature of a makeshift. A great reduction had to be made in the demand, and this was effected satisfactorily for the most part; but at the same time it was clear from the first that there would be a large enhancement on the summary settlement of 1859. In most parganas liberal measures of graduation were adopted, and the final demand was not reached in the last pargana, Kukra Mailani, till 1887. This step was not, however, taken in Aurangabad, Pasgawan, Kasta, Sikandarabad, Paila, Kheri and Srinagar, where the revision was first effected; while in Palia and Atwa Piparia there was no reason for it, as the summary demand was not exceeded. The net result was that the final revenue was fixed at Rs. 8,02,411 or 73 per cent. more than the summary assessment. The revision was completed in 1877, when the total demand for the district was only Rs. 7,09,999. The settlement was sanctioned for a period of thirty years from the original date, but much of the advantage of a long term was lost on account of the constant alterations.

The revised revenue.

The assessment was not the only work of the settlement officers, for as elsewhere in Oudh they were invested with the powers of a civil court for the determination of all rights in land. The work of the courts was, however, light as compared with other parts of Oudh, possibly on account of the large proportion of the land held in taluqdari tenure by long-established families. The total number of claims preferred from November, 1865 to August, 1878, during which period the courts remained open, was 9,484—a far smaller number than in most districts of Oudh. Much of the litigation, too, arose from sales and mortgages, which had been very numerous, especially in the coparcenary estates of the Muhamdi tahsil. The number of claims to subsettlement in taluqas was 531, and of these only 39 were decreed, probably owing to the fact that Act XXVI of 1866 was introduced at an early period of the settlement. Under proprietary rights decrees numbered 587, out of 988 cases instituted, these being of the nature of *sir* or *dihdari*. There were also 94 *shankalps* decreed, or 57 per cent. of the claims, while other

Judicial proceedings.

subordinate rights asserted in taluqas amounted to 752, of which 611 were substantiated. In non-taluqdari estates 826 claims to occupancy and other under-proprietary rights were admitted out of 1,241 cases brought before the courts. Such heritable rights were established by descendants of persons who had obtained rent-free grants from the revenue officials and in a few instances by headmen in villages which had long been held under direct management.

Working of the settlement.

In spite of the many disadvantages under which this settlement laboured at the outset, it proved in the end fairly successful. For some years following on 1870 the district suffered from marked depression, and in 1876 it was ascertained that there had been an actual decline in the cultivated area. From 1880 onwards, however, the tract made steady progress, and this was maintained till 1892, when a series of wet years seriously affected the lowlying parganas. This was arrested by the famine of 1896-97, which operated in a different direction. The cultivated area was everywhere contracted; but in the north the drought improved the public health and at the same time bumper crops of maize and kodon were produced. Here, so long as the rainfall is light or normal, steady development may be expected; but a wet cycle will arrest the movement. In the south, which suffered somewhat acutely from the famine, the recovery has been slow, but sure. It must be remembered that different circumstances suit different parts of the district and that total figures are misleading, as what would be a good year in the southern rice tract would possibly affect the north injuriously. On the whole, omitting the abnormal years of floods and famines, the revenue was collected with ease, and when the term of the settlement was about to expire, it was confidently anticipated that a considerable enhancement would be secured, not only by reason of the general extension of cultivation, but also of the great rise in prices and the development of a large and lucrative export trade brought about by the construction of the railway.

Second regular settlement.

The work of the new settlement began in 1897, when Mr. S. H. Butler was appointed settlement officer. In the next year Mr. A. W. Pim was sent to the district as assistant settlement officer, and the whole assessment was completed by

December 1900, when the last pargana report was submitted. The operations were characterised by rapidity and economy, the total cost being only Rs. 44 per square mile, although this excluded the expenditure on the survey which preceded the settlement, the total average being Rs. 130 per square mile.

The village papers were prepared by the survey officials, but the soil classifications had to be closely scrutinized by the settlement officers, and in many cases fresh demarcation was found necessary. The system of assessment closely resembled that adopted throughout Oudh. Circles were framed topographically as far as the varying conditions of the villages permitted, and standard rates were elicited, a separate scale being determined for high and low caste tenants, while the assumption area was dealt with at high-caste rates. It was considered necessary to make large allowances for the circumstances of individual villages, especially in the less developed tracts; and in grain-rented areas the average recorded grain rental of the village was frequently employed for the valuation of grain-rented land. The village records were found to be fairly accurate, though inferior to those of most Oudh districts, and only in Muhamdi and Pasgawan were attempts at concealment of rental detected. The assessment was made on an area of 790,810 acres, somewhat in excess of the average cultivation of the preceding fifteen years, but less considerably than the amount reached in 1892. The experiences of favourable years subsequent to the settlement show that the area assessed was safe, the error, if any, being on the side of moderation. Of the whole, 52·9 per cent. was held by ordinary tenants on cash rents, 34·3 on grain payments, 1·3 per cent. by occupancy tenants, the rest being included in the assumption areas. The grain-rented lands were valued at a low rate, not only in anticipation of a fall in prices, but also with the intention of leaving a margin for precariousness. The amount added for *siwai* was considerably less than what might have been expected from the recorded collections, the reason being that much of the income under this head was rejected as not fairly assessable. A very small deduction was made for proprietary cultivation and Rs. 32,381 were allowed for improvements. The net accepted assets were Rs. 22,19,870, or Rs. 1,82,940 less than

Assessment.

the amount recorded for the year of verification, and only a little more than the average collections for the preceding fifteen years.

The revenue.

The proportion taken as revenue was 46·4 per cent., the gross final demand for the ordinarily-settled portion of the district being Rs. 10,28,510. This includes the nominal demand of Rs. 5,717 on revenue-free villages and Rs. 13,552 paid by jungle grants and fee-simple estates, as well as Rs. 8,741 assessed at the same time on the alluvial mahals. The net demand was introduced gradually, the amount for the first five years being Rs. 9,80,222, for the second five years Rs. 9,97,282, and for the eleventh year Rs. 10,01,657. The last represents an enhancement of 21 per cent. on the expiring revenue. The settlement was sanctioned for a period of thirty years for the district as a whole, though alterations were made in the length of the term for several parganas in order to secure greater uniformity. It will expire on the 30th of June, 1929, in Muhamdi, and in Lakhimpur and Nighasan one year later in each case. The final realizable revenue for each pargana, including the nominal sums paid on the grants, will be found in the appendix.*

Working of the settlement.

The incidence of the final demand on each acre of land cultivated at the time of settlement was Re. 1-6-1. This was lighter than in any other part of Oudh—a result that was only to be expected in so backward a district. The pressure of the revenue on the land has become lighter since settlement, owing to a large increase in cultivation and conversion of grain rents into cash payments at very high rates. The incidence in 1904, when the final demand had not yet come into operation, was only Re. 1-1-7 per cultivated acre. Neither the cultivated area nor the rents can be regarded as at all stable, but there can be no question as to the moderation of the assessment. The figures of the corrected rent-roll are not reliable, but the revenue is at the present time probably not more than one-third of the rental demand. The revenue has been collected with ease. A large part of the district is held in taluqdari tenure, and though many of the taluqdars are to a considerable extent in debt, there has been no difficulty in realizing the Government demand. Trouble is sometimes

* Appendix, Table IX.

experienced with regard to the small proprietors in Pasgawan, but this is certainly not the result of high assessment.

The assessment of the alluvial mahals along the Chauka and other rivers was conducted at the same time as the regular settlement. At the first regular assessment, these had been generally settled for the full period together with the rest of the district; but at the last revision 33 mahals were demarcated and treated under the ordinary rules applied to such alluvial lands. They were all assessed by Mr. Butler in the latter part of 1900, sanction being received in the following year. Ten of these mahals, comprising seven in Srinagar assessed at Rs. 1,995, and one each in Palia, Dhaurahra and Nighasan, were settled conditionally for the full term and their assessment will only come up for revision in the case of any abnormal extent of alluvion and diluvion. The remainder, comprising ten in Palia, ten in Dhaurahra, two in Bhur, at Rs. 525, and one in Firozabad paying Rs. 575, were assessed for five years only, these being for the most part in the hands of smaller proprietors. The total revenue of the alluvial mahals in 1904 was Rs. 8,741, of which Rs. 3,490 were paid in Dhaurahra, Rs. 3,015 in Srinagar, Rs. 800 in Nighasan and Rs. 336 in Palia. **Alluvial mahals.**

In addition to the ordinary revenue demand, the usual cesses are paid in this district which are levied in other parts of Oudh. At the first regular settlement they amounted to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the gross land revenue, being made up of the road and school funds, each of one per cent., and the district dak and marginal cesses, of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. each. In 1871 the local rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was imposed, and in 1878 a famine rate of two per cent. was added, thus making up the consolidated local rate of seven per cent. which is now in force. The patwari rate of three per cent. has been paid since 1889, and at the last settlement the village police rate of six per cent. was instituted in place of the old system of payment by *jagirs*. Cesses consequently at the present time amount to 16 per cent. of the gross revenue demand. The total paid in each pargana in 1904 will be found in the appendix; in that year it amounted to Rs. 1,62,314, while the final amount will be Rs. 1,64,890.* From 1905, however, the famine rate **Cesses.**

* Appendix, Table X.

has been discontinued, so that the total will be reduced proportionately.

Police-stations.

For the purposes of police administration the district is divided into twelve police circles. The number is small, considering the size of the district, as the average area of each circle amounts to no less than 247 square miles. If, however, the forests be excluded, the area falls to 200 square miles. Large as it still is, there has been a great improvement during the last thirty years, for in 1874 there were only seven police-stations in the district. Since that date new stations have been established at Pasgawan in the Muhamdi tahsil, Nimgaon and Phulbihar in Lakhimpur, and at Palia and Isanagar in Nighasan, while the old thana at Singahi has been transferred to the tahsil headquarters. The population of each circle at the last census will be found in the appendix.* The circles have been framed generally without reference to the revenue sub-division of the district. In the Muhamdi tahsil the Pasgawan circle includes the whole of the pargana of that name as well as 15 villages of Muhamdi. The jurisdiction of the Muhamdi police-station extends over the remaining 111 villages of that pargana, and the whole of Magdapur and Atwa Piparia. The Aurangabad pargana belongs to the Mitauli circle, which also includes Kasta and five villages in pargana Kheri. Haidarabad, the remaining portion of this tahsil, is divided between the Gola and Nimgaon circles; but the former also embraces the whole of Kukra Mailani, except three villages in the north, 15 villages of Paila and 50 villages of Bhur. The rest of the Lakhimpur tahsil is divided up between the circles of Lakhimpur and Nimgaon, Phulbihar and Bhira. The thana at Nimgaon has jurisdiction over the remaining 114 villages of Paila and 60 villages of Kheri. The Lakhimpur circle includes the rest of pargana Kheri and the greater part of Srinagar, excluding 60 villages which form part of the Phulbihar thana. The latter also extends over 40 villages of Bhur, the remainder of which, as well as the three villages in the north of Kukra, belong to the Bhira circle. In the Nighasan tahsil the Palia thana includes all the pargana of that name, the northern portion of Khairigarh and the north-

* Appendix, Table II.

west of Nighasan. The remainder of the latter and Khairigarh are included in the Nighasan thana, as well as six villages of Dhaurahra. The Dhaurahra and Isanagar circles practically correspond with the two eastern parganas of Dhaurahra and Firozabad. It is at present contemplated to increase the number of thanas, and this will necessitate a redistribution of areas.

Police force. Details of the police force entertained will be found in the appendix.* The whole is under the district superintendent, who is assisted by one reserve and one visiting inspector. The ordinary regular police force consists of 182 men of all grades, but in addition to this there is the civil reserve of 64 men, and the armed police, 95 strong. They are maintained at an annual cost of somewhat over Rs. 61,000. The municipal police are those of Lakhimpur, which will shortly be amalgamated with the provincial force. The town police includes those in the notified area of Muhamdi and in the two Act XX towns of Kheri and Dhaurahra. The village chaukidars, numbering 1,730 men or one to every 523 inhabitants, are now the paid servants of Government, the cost of their upkeep being met from the Oudh rural police rate, which has been in force since the last settlement. As usual in Oudh, they are mainly drawn from the Pasi caste. Lastly, there are 32 road chaukidars who patrol the roads from Shahjahanpur to Sitapur and to Gola, as well as that running along the railway in the Bhira circle. Special arrangements are made for patrolling the roads round Gola during the season of pilgrimage.

Crime. The criminal work of the district is generally light, and of recent years there have been no serious outbreaks of crime. This is illustrated by the statistics of convictions shown in the appendix.† It will be seen that murders have been fairly frequent in most years: they are generally committed in the most open way, and almost invariably the murderer is an outraged husband or lover. Serious dacoities do not often occur, such instances as have come to light being the work of local bad characters, who have gradually grown desperate. The presence of such large areas of jungle and forests affords professional criminals shelter and an easy hiding-place for stolen property,

* Appendix, Table XVII. | † Appendix, Tables VII and VIII.

this being especially the case in the Gola and Palia circles and in the jungle along the Kathna in Mitauli. Cattle theft is rare, although Kheri is a great breeding district and huge herds are to be seen everywhere. The commonest offences are petty thefts and burglaries, which are rendered easier to commit and harder to detect by reason of the great size of the police circles, the absence of brick houses, and the fact that in many parts of the district the people live in mere straw sheds which are scattered about the numerous hamlets and are seldom collected into a central site. Arson and mischief to crops are also common offences, either committed by way of revenge, or else by the village *badmash*, on account of failure to pay him blackmail. Of the general mass of the population the most troublesome castes are Brahmans and Pasis. The former are as a rule idle, and owing to their careless methods of cultivation cannot keep pace with the increasing demand for land and the higher rents paid by low-caste tenants, while the latter still continue their hereditary profession of thieving. The criminal tribes who haunt the district are not especially noticeable. Mention should, however, be made of the Sansiah colony at Sahibganj in Atwa Piparia, where they were settled on their removal from Sultanpur in 1896: they live in a village of their own, under prescribed rules and supervision, and are not allowed to leave the limits of the colony without passes. The colony has dwindled of late years, as the majority of the colonists were found to be Bhatus, Beriyas, Haburas, or Nats, and as these tribes are not proclaimed they could not be legally kept in confinement and were therefore discharged and settled on various estates in Kheri, Gonda, and other districts. There they have been given land, but they are constantly prone to petty crime and the police have to keep them under close supervision. In this district there are Bhatus at Jagdeopur and Nats at Baragaon in pargana Bhur; and Haburas at Bijhauli in Paila.

Infanticide.

Prior to annexation female infanticide was commonly practised in this district, as in every other part of Oudh. The worst offenders were the Rajputs, and especially those of the Ahbans clan. Sir W. Sleeman states that the crime was in general vogue among all Rajputs in the Muhamdi district,* and his assertion is

* Tour in Oude, Vol. II, pp. 60, 68.

borne out by general testimony. After the mutiny steps were taken to secure its extinction, and the taluqdars engaged to do their utmost with this end in view. The practice is now generally considered to be obsolete, and this result has been achieved without resort to any coercive measures. The Infanticide Act was never applied to Kheri, and all that was done was to take from time to time a census of the infant population in the most suspected villages. A special investigation in 80 villages made in 1868 showed that females numbered only 39·2 per cent. of the population; but in the case of children under four years of age the proportion was 44 per cent.—a figure which was considered fairly satisfactory. The census of the following year gave somewhat better results, and at each successive enumeration the proportion of females has steadily increased. In 1881 it amounted to 42·7 per cent. of all the Rajputs, the average for all castes being 46·6 per cent.; while ten years later at the last census the Rajput females numbered no less than 47·2 of the Rajput inhabitants, which was actually higher than the general average for all castes.

Jail.

The district jail was originally located at Muhamdi and was destroyed with the rest of the civil buildings during the mutiny. After annexation temporary accommodation was found at Muhamdi in the police *havalat*, which was found to be far too small for the purpose. In 1864, when the civil buildings at Lakhimpur were erected, a new jail was made at that place, a small mud-walled structure on the ordinary pattern of the Oudh third-class jails. It was originally designed to hold 149 prisoners, but subsequent improvements and alterations were made from time to time. The present jail is partly of brick and partly of mud, and can hold 386 prisoners, while the average number of inmates in 1904 was 292, maintained at a total average cost of Rs. 53-7-1 per head. The manufactures at the jail are of the ordinary description, and include coarse cotton cloth, dusters, cotton tape, netting, rugs and *baib* matting of an excellent quality; the average earnings of each prisoner in 1904 were Rs. 5-2-0. The jail is, as usual, under the charge of the civil surgeon.

Excise.

For the purposes of excise administration the district is partly under the distillery and partly under the outstill system.

After annexation the right to sell spirit was leased to contractors, but in 1860 the distillery system was introduced for the whole area. The wholesale vendors distilled their own liquor at the *sadr* distillery, and before moving it paid a still-head duty of twelve annas per gallon, on liquor of 25° or more below proof, and Rs. 2 on spirit of greater strength. All vendors were required to take out licenses, but from a large proportion of them no fees were demanded. The income in 1860 amounted to Rs. 47,940, but the total decreased rapidly during the next few years, chiefly owing to the fact that the still-head duty was doubled in 1862, and in consequence the old rate was shortly afterwards resumed. The income in 1863 was only Rs. 18,750, but it rose again rapidly in 1864 and the following years. The distillery system remained in force throughout the district till 1881, when the Nighasan tahsil and four parganas of Muhamdi were experimentally placed under the outstill system. The measure was successful in Nighasan, as it had the effect of closing the shops in the neighbouring tracts of Nepal; but no advantage was derived in Muhamdi, where the ordinary distillery system was reintroduced in 1891. In the following years the distillery at Lakhimpur was closed and the liquor imported from Sitapur and Shahjahanpur. This arrangement has been since maintained; there is now no distillery or bonded warehouse in the district, the contractors taking the liquor direct to their shops. At the present time there are 96 shops under the distillery system and 37 outstills in Nighasan. The former includes one shop licensed to sell foreign liquor at Lakhimpur, where the chief trade is in Rosa rum, which is consumed by the better classes, such as Kayasths and Musalmans. The chief consumers of country liquor are Kalwars, Pasis and Bhatus. The amount drunk is large, considering that the district is almost wholly agricultural and contains no towns of any size. The average consumption for the ten years ending 1904 was nearly 12,500 gallons, but during the latter half of the decade there was a very considerable increase. The receipts as well as the amount drunk vary according to the nature of the harvest, and afford a very fair indication of the general state of prosperity or otherwise. From 1884 to 1893 the average annual income from spirits was

Rs. 47,300. A marked decline set in in 1892 and continued till 1897, when the excise receipts reached their lowest recorded point, the income from liquor being only Rs. 15,400. There was a slight improvement in 1898; and thereafter the income rose by leaps and bounds, reaching nearly Rs. 60,000 in 1900 and over Rs. 90,000 two years later. The average receipts from 1893 to 1904 were Rs. 38,585. The fermented liquor known as *tari* shows a similar increase, as will be seen by reference to the details given in the appendix.* The right to collect and sell *tari* is sold by contract annually, but the existence of so few palm trees in the district renders this source of excise revenue but very insignificant.

Hemp drugs.

Hemp drugs are of much greater importance. The hemp plant grows wild all over the Nighasan tahsil, and *bhang* is largely drunk mixed with *sharbat*, and especially by Brahmans. A considerable amount is also exported to neighbouring districts. The drug known as *ganja* is not consumed here, as is the case throughout Oudh generally; *charas*, on the other hand, is sold to a very large and increasing extent, the chief purchasers being Brahmans and Faqirs. From 1890 to 1899 the receipts from hemp drugs varied but little, the average being about Rs. 11,000 annually, but since 1900 they have increased about threefold. Under the present system the right to sell drugs is leased for three years, and in 1903 the amount paid for the triennial contract reached the sum of Rs. 40,000. There are 75 shops in the district licensed to sell drugs.

Opium.

The consumption of opium in Kheri is also large, especially in the towns where it is frequently smoked in the form known as *chandu*, Brahmans again accounting for the greater proportion of the amount sold. There are altogether 26 retail shops for the sale of opium in the district. The amount consumed and the income derived therefrom have risen steadily of late years. From 1893 to 1904 the former averaged 29·33 maunds annually, the lowest figures being 195 maunds in 1896, and the highest 36 maunds in 1902. The receipts from the same period averaged Rs. 13,726, while in the last year they reached nearly Rs. 19,000. The sum realized is very much greater than in any other part of Oudh except Lucknow, and is unusually high for an agricultural

* Appendix, Table XI.

tract. The extensive consumption of opium is probably connected in an intimate degree with the general unhealthiness of the climate, this drug being largely used as a febrifuge.

Registration. The registrar of the district is the Judge of Sitapur, under whom there are three sub-registrars stationed at each of the tahsil headquarters. At Nighasan the work is performed by the tahsildar. Originally there were eight offices in the district under the deputy commissioner, and the amalgamation with Sitapur did not take place till the constitution of the Oudh judgeships in 1892. The first office to be reduced was that of Pasgawan, which was closed on the 15th of April, 1895. On the same date Aurangabad was converted into a joint office and in October, 1898, was abolished. Two years later the joint office at Palia was reduced, and in 1901 those at Dhaurahra and Gola were similarly closed. The income from registration in this district is very small, and varies but little from year to year. The average annual receipts for the five years ending 1903 totalled Rs. 3,990, while the average expenditure for the same period was Rs. 2,072.

Stamps. A table will be found in the appendix showing the receipts under the head of stamps, both judicial and otherwise, for each year since 1890.* The figures for the most part explain themselves and call for no special comment. From 1890 to 1898 the income remained almost stationary, averaging about Rs. 56,000. Since that time there has been very little change in the receipts from non-judicial stamps, but a rapid increase in the sale of court-fee and other judicial stamps accompanied and followed the settlement, the average income from 1899 to 1904 being over Rs. 70,000 annually. For the 14 years ending 1904 the average has been Rs. 62,810, and of this over 73 per cent. was derived from judicial stamps. Owing to the general solvency of the chief landowners, the sale of stamps of high value is uncommon.

Income tax. Tables will also be found in the appendix showing the receipts from income-tax for the whole district since 1890 and also for each tahsil in the case of those assessed under part IV of the Act.† The latter account for by far the greater part of the amount collected: in 1902 out of a total of 959 persons

* Appendix, Table XII. | † Appendix, Tables XIII and XIV.

assessed only 31 derived their income from service, while the remainder were traders and manufacturers. The number of persons with incomes exceeding Rs. 2,000 is very small, averaging about 60 persons, and of these only six are at present assessed at over Rs. 10,000. Consequently the receipts under income-tax are but small in this district. For the ten years ending 1903 they averaged Rs. 20,200. The introduction of the new regulations exempting incomes under Rs. 1,000 resulted in a very considerable decrease, the number of assessees under Part IV falling from 885 to 276, and causing a reduction in the total of over Rs. 7,000. This was only to be expected, as in the previous year 663 persons were assessed who would now be exempt according to their estimated income. The sum realized is greatest in the Lakhimpur tahsil and least in Nighasan. The assessees are for the most part money-lenders and bankers, merchants in piece-goods, timber and grain, and sugar manufacturers. These trades are in the hands of small men through whom the large firms deal. Legal practitioners, metal workers and liquor contractors also contribute their quota to the tax.

Post-office. The postal arrangements of the district are now almost entirely under the control of the Imperial authorities. The first attempt to organize a postal service in the district was made shortly after the mutiny, and for a few years the work of carrying and distributing the mails was entrusted to the police, offices being opened at the tahsils and the principal thanas. This method proved generally unsatisfactory, and in 1865 a new scheme was inaugurated for the whole of Oudh, whereby the police were relieved of these duties and the district dak was started with a regular postal staff. The whole tract was divided into a number of circles, with a post-office in each, the police-stations being generally selected for the purposes of administrative convenience, and the mails were carried by runners. There were imperial dak lines from Lakhimpur to the branch offices at Mitauli and Dhaurahra, to Shahjahanpur *via* Gola and Muhamdi, and to Sitapur by way of Kheri and Oel. District dak runners were maintained on the routes from Gola to Bhira and from Lakhimpur to Singahi. Further improvements were made with a view to ensuring the regular delivery of letters in the villages,

and the system remained in force till 1876, when for postal purposes Oudh was amalgamated with the North-Western Provinces and the control passed into the hands of the Imperial authorities. The district dak was not, however, altogether extinguished, as only the more important offices were at first taken over. The rest have been gradually absorbed from time to time, and now there are only two district offices in Kheri, at Pasgawan and Sikandarabad. A list of all the post-offices will be found in the appendix. In addition to the head-office at Lakhimpur there were in 1904 four postal sub-offices, in the town of Lakhimpur and at Muhamdi, Gola and Nighasan; and also 23 branch offices, including those under district management. These are located at all the railway and police-stations, and at several of the larger villages, such as Aurangabad, Kotwara and Kalwa in the Muhamdi tahsil, Singahi, Jhandipurwa and Aira in Nighasan, and at Munda in pargana Bhur. The mails are now carried as far as possible by railway, but regular dak lines are maintained between Lakhimpur and the suboffices of Nighasan and Muhamdi, whence the letters are distributed to the dependent branch offices. There are railway telegraph offices at the principal stations, but the only combined post and telegraph office is that at Lakhimpur.

Municipalities. There is now but one municipality in the district administered under Act I of 1900. This is Lakhimpur, which was first constituted a municipality on the 14th of July, 1868. At the present time its affairs are managed by a board of twelve members, of whom nine are elected, the latter including the chairman who, in practice, is invairably the Deputy Commissioner. The income was originally derived from an octroi tax on imports; but this has been long abandoned and its place taken by a house-tax and a tax on weighmen and brokers, the latter being realized by monthly licenses. Other sources of income are rents from *nazul* and municipal lands, shops and houses, and from *sarais*, pounds, and fairs, the last being the rents paid by temporary stall-holders in the grove where the Ramlila fair takes place. The details of income and expenditure for each year since 1891 will be found in the appendix.* Muhamdi was constituted a

* Appendix, Table XVI.

municipality on the 7th of April, 1879, and so remained till the 1st of April, 1904, when it was reduced to the status of a notified area under chapter XII of the Municipal Act. It is now managed by a small committee under the tahsildar. The income and expenditure of the place since 1891 is also shown in the appendix.

Act XX towns. The towns of Kheri and Dhaurahra are administered under Act XX of 1856, which was applied to them on the 3rd of February, 1876. Dhaurahra was constituted a municipality in September 1881, but was again reduced to the status of an Act XX town in August, 1889. They are managed on the usual lines and call for no further comment. In the separate articles in the second part of this volume are shown the principal items of receipts and disbursements for 1903. The Act was also extended to Gola in March 1905. The Sanitation Act has been applied to these places, but only as regards the water-supply. Similar treatment has been extended to three other places in the district, Baragaon, Singahi-Bhadaura, and the combined village of Oel and Dhakwa.

District board. A large proportion of the internal administration of the district is as usual entrusted to the district board. This body was first constituted under the name of the local committee according to Act XVII of 1871; this was replaced by the district committee in May, 1882, and its first meeting was held in July of that year. After the passing of Act XIV of 1883 the committee was reorganized and thenceforth known as the district board. It is composed of 13 members, of whom four hold their seats by virtue of their office, these being the Deputy Commissioner as chairman and the three sub-divisional officers, and nine are elected, one being returned annually for a period of three years from each of the three tahsíls. Most of the work in this district is performed by the official members of the board; but some of the native gentlemen have from time to time rendered great assistance. The secretary of the board has always been a private member. The work of the board is of the usual description. It has charge of the communications and their upkeep, the educational and medical arrangements of the district, and it administers the pounds, ferries, district dak, *sarais* and inspection bungalows. The board also maintains a veterinary establishment for the treatment of cattle disease in this district. Among the most important

works of public utility constructed under the board's administration are the bridges over the Gumti and Kathna rivers on the road from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur, and that over the old Chauka river on the Dhaurahra road. Dispensaries have also been built at Lakhimpur, Gola, Muhamdi and Dhaurahra. The details of income and expenditure for each year since 1891 will be found in tabular form in the appendix.* The income of the board in the first year of its constitution was Rs. 41,754. Twenty years later, in 1903, the total had risen to Rs. 1,09,287; the greater part of this is derived from local funds, but large sums annually accrue from pounds, ferries and school fees. The income does not quite suffice for the expenditure, and consequently this is known as a deficit board. The chief reason for this lies in the unusual amounts that have to be paid for the maintenance of communications in this district. In 1893 the sum expended on civil works was little more than Rs. 22,000, while ten years later it had risen to nearly Rs. 65,000.

Nazul.

Another function of the board in addition to those already mentioned, is the management and control of a large proportion of the *nazul* land in the district. There are in Kheri altogether 49 properties belonging to Government. Of these 23 are either whole mahals or villages which are managed under the Board of Revenue by the Special Manager of the Court of Wards. In 1904 these brought in an income of Rs. 15,549. There are also eight smaller plots and groves under the same management. The remaining 17 properties are classed as *nazul*, this representing, as defined in Government Resolution No. 1860/XII—929C., dated the 21st November, 1902, all immovable Government property managed by the district officer or by any provincial department, or of which the management has been made over to a local body.† In this district these plots consist for the most part of old forts or their sites, and houses. They are all managed by the district board with the exception of a single small area at Lakhimpur which has been handed over to the municipal authorities.

Education.

Perhaps the most important of all duties of the district board is that connected with the management of the educational

* Appendix, Table XV. | † *Vide* Gazetteer of Lucknow, p. 132.

arrangements, so far as the great majority of the schools are concerned. In this district education has not made much progress. This is only to be expected, as Kheri is an almost entirely agricultural tract, possessing no large towns, and very little demand, except for primary education, exists. The first attempts at education on the part of Government were made shortly after the reoccupation of Oudh. In 1862 the *zila* school at Lakhimpur was built and was at first supported by subscriptions and a Government grant-in-aid. In 1863 there were tahsili schools at Muhamdi and Gola, also in receipt of small grants, that at the former place being one of the best in the province, owing to the liberality of the taluqdars. The Gola school was subsequently reduced to the status of a primary institution and in 1865 there were, as at present, four middle vernacular schools, at Muhamdi, Kheri, Barwar and Aurangabad. Primary education was first systematically started in 1869, and twelve schools were then opened, with a total average attendance of 194 pupils in the first year. For several years the progress was very small, as in 1873 the number of schools was still the same, although the attendance had distinctly increased. In the Lakimpur *zila* school in that year the pupils were all sons of Government officials or shopkeepers, and there was not a single landowner's son in attendance. During recent years the numbers of both schools and scholars have greatly increased, a considerable addition having arisen from the system of grants-in-aid to indigenous village schools, which was introduced in 1896. Grants were first made to 18 schools with 492 pupils on their books, and the subsequent development of this system has been somewhat remarkable.

Schools.

A list of all the schools in the district, showing the class and the average attendance in 1904, will be found in the appendix. The secondary schools are six in number, including the four tahsili schools, the high school at Lakhimpur, which is under the direct management of the educational department and is the successor of the old *zila* school, and the Dharam Sabha, also at Lakhimpur. The latter is an endowed institution, classed as an anglo-vernacular school; it also receives a grant from the municipality. The schools supported by the district board and from municipal funds number 90 in all, 34 being of the upper-primary, and 51 of the lower

primary type, while five were girls' schools. There were also 69 aided primary schools for boys and one aided girls' school. Female education is far from being general in this district. In 1871 a small girls' school with 17 pupils was in existence at Muhamdi, and this still continues, as well as a private institution of a similar nature at the same place. The other State schools for girls are those at Lakhimpur, supported by the municipality, and at Barwar, Aurangabad and Kalwa. There is also a small aided girls' school at Panahpur in the Pasgawan pargana. The education provided in these schools comprises only reading, writing and arithmetic, but in most cases religious instruction is imparted at home. There are several other private schools for boys in different parts of the district and especially in the Muhamdi tahsil, but these are generally of a purely religious character, the instruction being either in Sanskrit or in the Quran. In some of these schools arithmetic is taught after the native method, which relies principally on the memory, the multiplication-table going up to forty times forty. The recent growth in the number of schools and scholars since 1896 is shown in tabular form in the appendix.*

Literacy. The census returns clearly illustrate the state of literacy in the district, and the statistics of successive enumerations show that the number of persons able to read and write has steadily increased of late years, although hardly in proportion with the growth of the population. The census of 1881 recorded 13,697 persons as being able to read and write, while at the following census the total rose to 15,903, and in 1901 to 16,231. The results are, however, poorer than in any other district of Oudh, and indeed of the whole of the United Provinces except Budaun. The proportion of literate males has risen from 3·1 per cent. in 1881 to 3·25 per cent. at the last census. Female education has done better, as in the former year only 35 females were recorded as able to read and write, while at the last enumeration the total had risen to 660, representing an increase from ·04 to ·15 per cent. of the whole female population, which is more satisfactory than is the case in many other districts of Oudh. Education is proportionately much more popular among the Hindus than with

* Appendix, Table XVIII.

the Musalmans, since 3·38 per cent. of the Hindu males were classified as literate at the last census, as against only 2·22 per cent. of the Musalmans. As usual, the proportion varies enormously in the case of different castes. In the case of the Kayasths, for instance, over 62 per cent. of the male population was literate, whereas of the Muraos, who are very numerous in this district, only 100 males or under ·3 per cent. of the whole number could read and write. This, however, was far better than was the case with the Chamars, among whom less than six in every 10,000 could be so described. The Nagri script is far more commonly used than the Persian. In 1901 nearly 70 per cent. knew the former only, and only 19 per cent. the latter, most of these being Musalmans or residents of the towns. English education has made but very little progress, and at the last census only 11 out of every 10,000 males were literate in English, the district in this respect being only superior to Sultanpur and Basti.

Dispensaries. The medical arrangements of the district are under the general management of the district board, although the executive control is vested, as elsewhere, in the civil surgeon. A dispensary was opened at Muhamdi almost immediately after the restoration of order in 1859. Two years later the *sadr* dispensary was built at Lakhimpur, and that at Muhamdi was maintained as a branch institution. In 1864 a third dispensary was opened at Gola, the district by reason of its unhealthiness being better provided in this respect than any other part of Oudh. Others were subsequently added at Dhaurahra and Singahi in Khairigarh, and these five institutions are now maintained by the district board. Other similar institutions are the ordinary police hospital at Lakhimpur, the small railway hospital at Mailani, and the forest dispensary at Palia. The last is to be replaced by a district board dispensary. None of these admit in-door patients except the *sadr* dispensary, and there is no female hospital in this district, although a considerable number of women are treated both as out-door and in-door patients at the general hospital at Lakhimpur. All the district board dispensaries are largely resorted to by the people, as is only to be expected in a district which possesses so bad a reputation for

unhealthiness. In 1903 the daily average attendance at the hospitals was 232 persons—a high figure considering the small population of the district. External relief is also largely given in the shape of the free distribution of quinine and other febrifuges.

Cattle pounds.

The first cattle pounds were started soon after the mutiny, and the number has been gradually increased from time to time, many having been added since 1884, when their management was taken over by the district board. There are 27 pounds in the district, including those at Lakhimpur and Muhamdi, started in 1868 and 1879, respectively, and managed by the local authorities. The others are located at all the police-stations, which were the first to be established, and in the larger villages. The latter include, in the Lakhimpur tahsil, the pounds at Aliganj and Sansarpur, dating from 1900; at Sakhetu and Bijua, from 1901; and at Oel, opened in 1904; in the Muhamdi tahsil, at Aurangabad, dating from 1892; at Barwar, from 1902; and at Kalwa and Harinagar, started in 1904; and in the Nighasan tahsil, at Kafara, established in 1892; Banbirpur, opened a year later; Sheikhupur, from 1901; and Majhgain, from 1903. The annual income from pounds in this district is large, the figures for recent years being given in the appendix.*

* Appendix, Table XV.

CHAPTER V.

HISTORY.

Traditional.

THE district of Kheri is peculiarly rich in ancient remains; but these have not been examined, except in a superficial and cursory manner. Systematic excavation will probably throw much light on the early history of this tract. The evidence of tradition points to the inclusion of Kheri in the dominions of the lunar race of Hastinapur. Balmiar-Barikhar or Barkhar, in pargana Muhamdi, is one of the many places popularly identified with the capital of Vairata, where the Pandava brothers spent part of their exile, a kingdom usually believed to have been situated in the Alwar State in Rajputana.* Kundalpur, near Khairigarh, is said to be the place from which Krishna carried off Rukmini, while the sacrifice for the extirpation of the Nagas was performed by Kshemakarna, companion of Janamejaya, at Kheri. Both these stories are also related of Ahar in Bulandshahr.† The evidence of the few archæological remains which have so far been unearthed points to the occupation of the district during the Buddhist period. The earliest relic which can be dated with some certainty is a stone horse which formerly stood in thick jungle two miles from the fort of Khairigarh, and is now at the Lucknow Museum. Its attitude is stiff and conventional, but it resembles closely the figure depicted on a rare coin of Samudra Gupta, and a fragmentary inscription mentions that monarch, who flourished in the fourth century A.D. The history of the mediæval period is an absolute blank, except that coins of Bhoja Deva of Kanauj (ninth century A.D.) are commonly found, as in most parts of the provinces. The first contact with modern history is the tradition that Prithvi Raj was imprisoned in the fort at Khairigarh, which is certainly incorrect.

* C. A. S. R., I, p. 351, and II, p. 241.

† Bulandshahr Gazetteer, 2nd edition, p. 172.

Early history.

The early history of the district is very obscure. It is said that the country was held by Pasis and other aboriginal tribes, who were gradually ousted by the Rajputs. No trace of Pasi dominion, however, remains—a not surprising result in a district which was then even more densely clothed with forest than at present, and in which the cultivated portions have so long been held by the descendants of Rajput and Musalman invaders.

The Bachhils.

The earliest Rajput clan of whom anything is known is that of the Bachhils, a race which claims descent from the mythical Raja Vena, the father of Vairata, and this fact has been adduced in testimony of the identification of Barkhar with the capital of that monarch. Nothing more definite is known of the origin of the Bachhils. They established their rule over the north and west of the district and in Pilibhit, and their strongholds were at Barkhar near Muhamdi, Kamp on the Sarda, Nigohi in Shahjahanpur, and Garh Gajana near Dewal in Pilibhit. It is known that they reigned at Dewal in 992 A.D., the date of the inscription at that place, but from that time to the seventeenth century their history is blank. It would seem that their authority extended over Muhamdi, Pasgawan, Atwa Piparia and Bhur, and that their domains marched with those of the Katehriyas on the west and of the Ahbans on the east.

The Ahbans.

The great clan of the Ahbans came at an early date from beyond the Ganges and settled in the districts of Hardoi, Kheri and Sitapur. They are said to have left their home in Gujarat under two brothers, Gopi and Sopi, at the time of the first Musalman invasions, and to have come to Oudh, where Gopi founded Gopamau in Hardoi. His brother, according to tradition, settled in several differeut places, one of which was Pataunja in Sitapur, variously ascribed to his eighth descendant, Raja Niraj Deo, and another was Bhurwara near Gola in this district. They subdued the Pasis, whose dominions stretched from Sandila in Hardoi to Dhaurahra, and by degrees acquired all the country comprised in the old parganas of Bhurwara and Nimkhar, which are now represented, so far as this district is concerned, by Bhur, Kukra Mailani, Haidarabad, Paila and Kasta, between the Ul and Kathna rivers. For many generations the headquarters of the clan were at Pataunja, but nothing is known of their history

till two brothers, Narsingh Deo and Jamnibhan, divided their estate, the former taking Nimkhar with his seat at Mitauli, and the latter retiring to Kotwara near Gola and exercising authority over the Bhurwara pargana. Singularly little is known of their history : they never produced leaders of character or enterprise, and at all times they have been notorious for their ignorance and duplicity.

Other Rajputs.

No other clan of Rajputs established their supremacy in the district for many centuries. The Janwars of Kheri and Srinagar came much later and sprang from a comparatively humble origin. The Jangres, who afterwards obtained so large a portion of the district, are not heard of till the eighteenth century. The Katehriyas of Khutar are said to have held Palia, so far as that pargana was occupied at all. The northern tracts were all forest and in the possession of Ahirs and Pasis, of whom the latter owned Dhaurahra, which remained in their hands for a considerable period. They were displaced by Bisens, but little else is known of this clan.

The Musalmans.

The Musalman conquest was deferred to a later date in this district than elsewhere, and never appears to have been in any way complete. There are no traditions in Kheri referring to Saiyid Salar Masaud, as in the adjoining district of Bahraich, and it would seem that the Musalmans made their supremacy felt but very gradually. It is not known when Khairabad first became a seat of Musalman government, but at all events the authority exercised over this remote tract seems to have been but slight. Kheri lay off the beaten track, and was not known to the historians. It is said that Muhammad *bin* Tughlaq passed through the district and founded the fort of Khairigarh; but this is doubtful, as tradition assigns the date 1379 to the foundation of the fort, when Firoz Shah was on the throne. Khairigarh was one of a chain of forts built along the north bank of the Sarju to protect the lowlands from the inroads of the marauding bands from Doti and Nepal. The position of their garrisons must have been most unenviable, on account of the climate. It is said that soon after their completion the forts were abandoned by Firoz, and apparently remained unoccupied for centuries. It is quite possible that his predecessor, Tughlaq Shah,

visited the district, as it is known that he went on pilgrimage to the shrine of Saiyid Salar at Bahraich,* but no reference to any stay here can be found. Kheri is not again mentioned till the time of Muhammad Khan Farmuli, commonly known as Kala Pahar, the nephew of Bahlol Lodi, who held in *jagir* the whole of Oudh.† He is said to have converted Mul Sah, the head of the Ahbans of Bhurwara, to Muhammadanism in 1488 and to have confirmed him in the possession of the pargana, which then contained 989 villages. Apart from these casual references, however, nothing can be learnt from the historians with regard to the district until the establishment of Mughal rule and the accession of Akbar. The independent rulers of Jaunpur had probably included Kheri, at least nominally, in their dominions; but none of the scenes of their struggles with the sovereigns of Dehli were in this district, nor was it affected by the later campaigns between the Mughals and Sher Shah, although it probably remained in Afghan hands for some time after the death of Humayun.

Akbar.

In the days of Akbar the district formed part of the province of Oudh, and most of it belonged to the Sarkar of Khairabad. The mahals or parganas of this Sarkar differed to a considerable extent from the revenue sub-divisions of the present day; but in some cases the names remain the same, and in others it is possible to trace the changes that have subsequently occurred from the existing records. In one case at least, however, a mahal has disappeared and nothing remains to show its locality.

Sarkar Khairabad.

Barwar-Anjana.

Of the twenty-two mahals that made up the Khairabad Sarkar the whole or part of eight lay within the area comprising the present district. The first was Barwar-Anjana, which took part of its name from the village of Barwar in Pasgawan, long famous as the home of the great Saiyid family; the second part, Anjana, is said to mean "unknown," an allusion to the character of the tract, then covered for the most part by forest. This mahal was of large area; it included the modern parganas of Muhamdi, Magdapur, Atwa Piparia, Pasgawan and Aurangabad as well as Alamnagar and Pindarwa in Hardoi. The whole remained a single unit till the days of Raja Ibad-ullah Khan,

* E. H. I., III, p. 249.

† *Ibid*, IV, p. 352

the Sombansi of Muhamdi. In Akbar's day the mahal was held by Brahmans and Rajputs, but the clan of the latter was not specified. The cultivated area was 79,670 *bighas*, the revenue 4,325,237 *dams*, and the military contingent 50 horse and 1,000 foot.

Bhurwara. Adjoining Barwar-Anjana was the vast mahal known as Bhurwara, which appears to have comprised the present parganas of Haidarabad, Bhur and Kukra Mailani. Much of it was then, as now, forest land, and the cultivated area was very small. It amounted to only 8,971 *bighas*, paying a revenue of 435,430 *dams*, and held by Ahbans, who contributed a force of 50 cavalry and 2,500 infantry. Like all the northern mahals, its boundaries were not clearly defined, and it is improbable that it was often visited by the local governors. The village from which it takes its name still exists, some four miles to the east of Gola.

Khairigarh. Another mahal of the same undefined character was Khairigarh, which apparently consisted of the Khairigarh, Nighasan and Palia parganas as well as the northern half of Dhaurahra. The *Ain-i-Akbari* states that Khairigarh was one of the most important fortresses in Hindostan, and that there were six other forts of brick and mortar within a short distance; but it is curious that no mention of this stronghold should be made in contemporary history.* The mahal of Khairigarh had 42,052 *bighas* of cultivation; it was assessed at 1,829,328 *dams*, and the zamindars were Bais, Bisens, Bachhils, and an unknown tribe styled "Kahanah." The military contingent was 300 horse and 1,500 foot.

Paila. In the south of the district was the mahal of Paila, an Ahbans possession. It seems to have been far smaller than the present pargana, for it could not have contained Bhurwara, which now lies in the northern portion. It had a cultivated area of only 982 *bighas*, assessed at 48,202 *dams*, and the local levies numbered but 200 infantry. Between Paila and Aurangabad lies the pargana of Kasta, which in Akbar's day appears to have formed part of the great Ahbans mahal of Nimkhar in Sitapur.

Kheri and Basara. The mahal of Kheri seems to have included the modern Srinagar and the greater part of pargana Kheri. The

* *Ain-i-Akbari*, II, p. 177.

headquarters were Kheri, where there was a fort of burnt brick. The landowners were Bisens and Janwars. It had 2,60,168 *bighas* of cultivation, paying a revenue of 3,250,522 *dams* and the military force was 60 horse and 1,500 foot. The south-western corner of the pargana between the Sarayan and Jamwari formed the small mahal of Basara. This was owned by Bachhils, who contributed 200 infantry and paid a revenue of 676,066 *dams* on 21,740 *bighas* of cultivation.

Basrah. There remains the mahal of Basrah, which I am unable to trace. There is no village of that name and no mention of the mahal in the old records. It may possibly have been in Nepal, the reason for this suggestion being that no revenue was specified, for it is certain that the revenue of the mahals on the marches of the empire was merely nominal. The *Ain-i-Akbari* informs us that it had 60,063 *bighas* of cultivation, it was owned by various castes, and it provided 300 foot soldiers. It is possible that Basrah was in Sitapur, as the old settlement report states that 209 villages of Basrah with others of Sailuk and Tambaur were taken to form the new pargana of Kondri in the days of Saadat Khan.*

Sarkar Bahraich. The southern part of Dhaurahra and the pargana of Firozabad lay in the Sarkar of Bahraich. There was a mahal known as Firozabad, which is probably identical with the latter pargana and part of Dhaurahra. It was held by Tomar Rajputs, who furnished 200 horse and 8,000 foot—a surprisingly large force. The cultivated area was 108,601 *bighas* and the revenue 1,933,079 *dams*. There was a brick fort at headquarters. It has been said that the southern portion of Dhaurahra belonged to the mahal of Qila Nawagarh, a now vanished town on the banks of the Dahawar near its junction with the Kauriala. But this place was on the south bank of the river, and it would seem that the whole mahal lay in what are now parganas Tambaur and Kondri North of Sitapur.

Akbar's revenue. Owing to the fact that the sub-divisions of Akbar's day were not conterminous with the boundaries of the present district, it is impossible to state accurately the revenue paid at that time. If, however, the portion of Nimkhar be taken as equivalent in

* Sitapur Settlement Report, p. 65.

value to those parts of Barwar-Anjana which now lie in Hardoi and which were mostly jungle at that date, an approximate estimate can be obtained. The revenue would work out at roughly Rs. 3,12,500, the incidence per acre being Re. ·95, which is a high figure, considering the nature of the district and the value of money at that period, and far in excess of the incidence of the land revenue at the present time.

The great families.

In Akbar's day the country was divided entirely among zamindari bodies, and none of the great families had assumed as yet a position of any prominence. The references to this district in contemporary history are extremely meagre, the result of its geographical position, and consequently the history of Kheri resolves itself into an account of the rise and fall of the local dynasties who maintained a semi-independent position till the end of the eighteenth century.

The Saiyids of Barwar.

The greatest of these families was that of the Saiyids. The famous Sadr Jahan of Pihani in Hardoi held a large grant of land in that district from Akbar, and this was retained by his son, Murtaza Khan, governor of Gopamau. Another son, Badr Jahan, held both Barwar Anjana and Kheri on rent-free tenure, but he appears to have merely received the revenues and not to have obtained any proprietary right. Muqtadi Khan, grandson of Murtaza Khan, was entrusted with the management of Barwar after the death of the Bachhil, Chhipi Khan, and built a large quadrangular fort at headquarters on the ruins of the old Bachhil stronghold. He largely increased his possessions during the reign of Aurangzeb, and compelled the Raja of Mitauli to execute a deed of sale of his property by keeping him in prison for twelve years. He then stood security for Baz Khan, head of the Musalman Ahbans of Bhurwara, and by trickery managed to gain possession of the whole pargana. He covered his estates with forts, which he built at Ahmadnagar, Kheri, Muhamdi, Barkhar, Bel, Siathu, Muhammadabad and other places. He died about 1683, and was succeeded by Saiyid Khurram, who removed the family residence to Aurangabad, a more central position, as the estate now included Kheri and Bhurwara, far to the east of Barwar. He died in 1709, and on his decease the overgrown estate was reduced by the

severance of Kheri, which was restored to the original zamindars.

The Bachhils.

The rise of the Saiyids had been effected at the cost of the Bachhils, whose history may be here told. This clan had continued to hold their ancestral possessions for many centuries, undisturbed by the Katehriyas, who had been so severely punished by Tughlaq Shah and his successor, Firoz. In the reign of Shahjahan a Bachhil chieftain held all Barwar and Kamp Dhaurahra, a tract which included all the present Dhaurahra, Bhur and Nighasan. He was employed, it is said, to reduce some rebels in the neighbourhood of Karra Manikpur, and after the successful issue of his commission repaired to Dehli, where he obtained the title of Chhipi Khan, an allusion, as the story goes, to the stains of blood upon his clothing. He retained his authority over his extensive possessions, which were for the most part a wilderness, and his headquarters were at the small stronghold of Kamp on the Chauka, a most inaccessible and therefore secure spot, far removed from the authority of the governor of Khairabad. Here he was attacked and besieged by the Chauhan chieftain, Chhatarbhoj, who had come from Rajputana under the orders of Aurangzeb, probably on account of Chhipi Khan's turbulent conduct. The royal forces blockaded the fort and after an eighteen months' siege took the place and put the garrison and its leader to the sword. Chhipi Khan had eleven brothers, but none of them recovered their lost possessions and their descendants degenerated into a set of turbulent robbers, of whom one, Bhagwant Singh of Ahrauri in Hardoi, distinguished himself in later Oudh history. During the eighteenth century the Bachhils were deprived of all of their estates, for Bhur had passed to the Jangres and Muhamdi to the Saiyids.

Muhamdi.

The latter also had stripped the Ahbans of their extensive lands. As has been already mentioned, they held Bhurwara and Nimkhar in Akbar's day. The latter was owned by the Hindu chieftains of the clan and the former by the descendants of the converted Mul Sah till its loss, five generations later, by Baz Khan at the hands of Saiyid Muqtadi of Barwar. It is very difficult to obtain an accurate account of how the Nimkhar branch lost their possessions. It would seem tha

there was no regular Raja of the Ahbans, but that three separate estates existed with headquarters at Mitauli, Pataunja and Machhrehta in Sitapur. Raja Kesri Singh of Machhrehta was deprived of his estate in the early year of Akbar's reign for having murdered his diwan. The fate of Pataunja is uncertain; and here the Ahbans seem to have been displaced by Musalmans, Panwars and others. Mitauli was taken from them by Saiyid Muqtadi, as already narrated; while the rest of the property seems to have been absorbed by the Gaurs of Sitapur. The Ahbans were, however, soon to be revenged upon the Saiyids. Dan Sah, a chieftain of this clan residing in the village of Badiagaon in pargana Gopamau of Hardoi, had married his daughter to a Sombansi of that district and her two sons, Badar Singh and Bahadur Singh, were staying with their maternal grandfather in 1700 A.D. In that year Saiyid Khurram of Aurangabad having designs upon the estate of Dan Sah, quarrelled with him about a grove in Badiagaon and then attacked the village, murdering all the inhabitants except the two boys whom he carried prisoners to Aurangabad. Bahadur was released, but Badar Singh became a Musalman under the name of Ibad-ullah; he married a natural daughter of his patron, and being an able man was made general manager of the estate and the leader of the troops. Saiyid Khurram died in 1709, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Muhammad Ali. He had a second son, named Imam-ud-din Khan, by a Hindu wife, and this man claimed a share in the estate, being supported by Ibad-ullah Khan. Fighting ensued, and the whole property fell into a state of confusion. Muhammad Ali seized and imprisoned the mother of Imam-ud-din; but she was rescued by Ibad-ullah and with him and her son fled to Dehli in 1726. There they applied to Muhammad Shah, the reigning emperor, and after two years Imam-ud-din obtained the estate with the aid of Saadat Khan, the Nawab Wazir of Oudh. In 1729 the mother died, and Ibad-ullah, by intriguing with Raja Newal Rai, managed to gain the possession of the entire property. He set up his headquarters at Muhamdi, where he enlarged and strengthened the fort. He died in 1737 and was succeeded by his son, Mahbub Ali Khan. The latter died in 1742, and for ten years the property was held

by his brother, and after whom came Ghulam Muhammad, a son of Mahbub Ali Khan. During this time the great estate, which comprised the whole of the Muhamdi tahsil as well as Kukra, Haidarabad, Bhur and Karanpur remained undivided. Ali Akbar Khan, the third and last surviving son of Badar Singh, being indignant that his nephew, a mere boy, should be preferred to him, organized a conspiracy with his Sombansi clansmen, and murdered Ghulam Muhammad in the fort at Muhamdi in 1757. Thereupon the mother of the late Raja collected her forces and defeated Ali Akbar Khan in the field. An arrangement was thereupon made that the latter should manage the estate during his lifetime and that Ghulam Nabi Khan, the younger brother of Ghulam Muhammad, should succeed him. In 1772 Akbar Ali Khan of his own accord resigned the chiefship, which he had held for fifteen years, and transferred the property to Ghulam Nabi Khan.

The Gaurs.

Meantime the Muhamdi estate was beset by a new enemy. The Gaurs of Katesar and Chandra had overthrown the Ahbans of Mitauli in 1707, and had possessed themselves of all the north of Sitapur. They now turned their attention to the great neighbouring estate. About 1766 they attacked Ali Akbar Khan and defeated him in the first battle. The latter then applied for aid to Ahmad Khan, the Bangash Nawab of Fatehgarh. The petition was favourably received and Ali Akbar marched from Fatehgarh with his allies. He again fought the Gaurs near Maikalganj on the road from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur, a desperate fight ensued, but the Gaurs won and Ali Akbar fled northwards towards Pilibhit, where he begged aid of the Rohillas. These Afghans joined the Raja, and a battle ensued near Mailani in an open clearing in the forests. The Gaurs were defeated; but they withdrew into the woods which covered their rear and rendered pursuit impossible. The Rohillas replaced Ali Akbar at Muhamdi and seized for themselves Khairigarh and Dhaurahra which they soon abandoned. This raid of the Rohillas, however, was long remembered in the district, as they mutilated every image and defiled every temple they met on their march.

The Ahbans of Mitauli.

The overthrow of the Saiyids did little good to the Ahbans whom they had displaced. But in the course of time they

managed to recover some of their old possessions. The descendants of Narsinghdeo still held Mitauli; but in 1670 this estate was reduced to a few villages by Mirza Bahadur Beg, who had been sent by Aurangzeb to coerce the refractory Rajputs of Nimkhar. Much of their land was recovered apparently, as it is said that Raja Man Singh of Mitauli held not only Maholi, but also Misrikh to the south—a tradition which seems somewhat improbable. Man Singh took part with Shuja-ud-daula in his campaign against the English, but failed to join the Oudh troops till after the battle of Buxar. He then attempted to oppose the march of the English with his raw levies, but was at once put to flight and killed, as he lay entangled in the cumbrous folds of his dress. Four years later, in 1768, the Gaurs attacked the Ahbans and drove them from Maholi and Mitauli. Dal Singh was then the head of the family, and he fled north with his clansmen, at last taking refuge in the village of Paisar, about four miles east of Dhaurahra on the Kauriala. There he lay hid in the dense forests and remained ten years till the Gaurs were defeated by the Raja of Muhamdi in 1773 and had to abandon Kasta and Maholi. Thereupon the Ahbans returned and re-established themselves in Mitauli, which continued to be held by this clan till the days of Raja Lone Singh. Their family history is told by Sir W. H. Sleeman, who states that the Mitauli *raj* was established by Raja Debi Singh, a descendant of Narsinghdeo, and that he having no son left his property to his brother, Bhajan Singh. The latter was the father of Raja Man Singh and Dal Singh. Man Singh had no son, but adopted Bhawani Singh, to whom he bequeathed his share in the estate, while Dal Singh's portion was divided among his six sons. The eldest of these was Khanjan Singh, who, when he became the head of the family, collected a large force and made use of it in the usual way by preying on his weaker neighbours. He attacked his nephew, Bhawani Singh, and stripped him of his lands, after which he acquired the greater part of the property of his other relatives. Khanjan Singh died without issue and was succeeded by his brother, Lone Singh, who continued the same policy.*

* Tour in Oude, Vol. II, 97.

The Ahbans of Bhurwara.

The Musalman members of the same clan regained Bhurwara after the fall of the Saiyids, and spread themselves over this great pargana. But they never acquired a position of any importance by reason of the continual subdivision of their estates. As already stated in the account of the Ahbans taluqas in a previous chapter, there was no Raja among them, and they were content to acknowledge the supremacy of their Hindu kinsmen in Mitauli, who failed, however, to protect them from the encroachments of their neighbours on the east.

The eastern parganas.

The history of the eastern parganas is chiefly the history of the Rajput clans who by degrees rose to eminence. Up to the end of the eighteenth century the Bisens of Manjhauli were predominant beyond the Chauka, and probably at an earlier period in Kheri and Srinagar as well. The two latter parganas fell under the sway of the Saiyids, and it is said that Saiyid Karim, who died in 1719, held all Kheri in *jagir*. Their place was taken at first by the Gaurs of Laharpur and the Ahbans of Mitauli, but gradually the Chauhans rose to eminence and firmly established themselves on both sides of the Ul. It is unnecessary to recapitulate their history, which has already been given in Chapter III. Beyond the Chauka the Bisens remained in undisturbed possession of Dhaurahra and Firozabad, their lands marching with those of the Jangres, the descendants of Chhatarbhoj, who had overthrown the Bachhil chieftain, Chhipi Khan. But when Raja Zalim Singh of Bhira adopted the Sombansi Jodha Singh, the dominion of the Bisens ended. In 1781 their leader, Raja Qalandar Singh, was killed in battle with the Jangres at Naripur near Dhaurahra: his son, Raghunath Singh, attempted to recover his estates, but failed; and in a few years they were finally expelled by the defeat inflicted on them at Nawapur by the widow of Jodha Singh. The Bisens had nominally held possession of Khairigarh, but they do not appear to have made their influence strongly felt in this remote tract, which passed into the hands of the Banjaras, who were in after years displaced by the Surajbansis from the Nepal hills.

Nawabi rule.

In the early days of the Oudh Government the boundaries of the district do not appear to have been clearly defined and the possession of the northern parganas seems to have been a

debateable point between the Nawab Wazirs and the Rohillas. It would appear that the power of the Oudh government was far from strong in these parts, for when Rohilkhand was ceded to the British in 1801 Khairigarh was also detached from Oudh and for a time it was included in the Khutar tahsil of Shahjahanpur.* With Khairigarh apparently went Palia, which remained a British possession and was not added to this district till 1865. Khairigarh was not valued by the British authorities owing to its extreme insalubrity; the police-station established at headquarters was soon removed to Palia, and the whole pargana was restored to Oudh in 1815, after the Nepal war and the cession of the *tarai* parganas by the treaty of Sigauli, together with Kanchanpur and other tracts in extinction of a loan of a crore of rupees.† This pargana was then included in the Oudh *chakla* of Khairabad, which apparently comprised the whole of the present district as well as most of Sitapur and Hardoi. The old system of sarkars and mahals was maintained till the days of Asaf-ud-daula, who inaugurated the arrangement of *chaklas,* which continued with modifications down to annexation. Sometimes Muhamdi was held separately and at other times it was united with Khairabad, while it seems probable that the south-eastern parganas occasionally formed part of the Bahraich *chakla.*

The chakladars.

From the end of the eighteenth century the history of the district is closely bound up with the account of the various chakladars of Muhamdi and their relation to the local chieftains. The first of these to make his mark in this district was the notorious Sital Parshad, a Tirbedi Brahman, who succeeded in subduing the refractory zamindars in Kheri, Sitapur and Hardoi by the exercise of unlimited cruelty and oppression, if the stories still current may be believed. In 1778 he reduced the Musalman Sombansis of Muhamdi by seizing Ghulam Nabi Khan for arrears of revenue and sending him a prisoner to Lucknow, where he died four years later. He then turned his attention to the east, where the rising power of Jodha Singh was becoming dangerous; and he, too, fell before the great Nazim, being killed by a Saiyid follower in single combat at Dhaurahra in 1782. By his death a serious rebellion was crushed, for Jodha Singh had leagued with the

* Aitchison's Treaties, Vol. II, p. 101. | † *ibid,* Vol. II, pp. 131—166.

Gaurs and the Ahbans, and before this defeat had overthrown a force under the Nazim's lieutenant at Tandiaon in Hardoi, capturing 19 guns. From Dhaurahra the rebels fled towards Khairigarh, but were overtaken on the banks of the Suheli and cut to pieces, the Rajas of Laharpur and Mitauli being slain. Sital Parshad had as his deputy at Muhamdi one Mansa Ram, who in 1779 completed the demolition of the Muhamdi estate by making a settlement with the village proprietors throughout Barwar Anjana and Bhurwara, thus re-establishing the Bachhils, Ahbans and others who had been dispossessed. He brought in many Kurmis and settled them in Paila, Haidarabad and elsewhere, thereby conferring an inestimable benefit on the district; but for the time he created anarchy and only paved the way for other taluqdars in the near future. The Oudh government was still, however, a reality; and in 1804 one of the most famous officials of the period, Hakim Mahdi Ali Khan, came to Muhamdi and ruled the district as well as Khairabad till 1821. He did an immense amount of good to the country in his charge, protecting the zamindars and encouraging cultivation, while at the same time he diligently restrained the ambitious attempts of the local Rajas.

Growth of the taluqas.

In 1820 the great influence of Hakim Mahdi attracted invidious attention, and in the following year he not only failed to add Bahraich to his charge, but was deprived of Muhamdi and Khairabad, having been overbidden by the Kayasth, Param Dhan, who offered three lakhs more than the former revenue. The district, which under the former *régime* had flourished greatly, now fell upon evil days. Param Dhan began by restoring the Raja of Muhamdi to his nominal rights and started the process, which was followed by his sixteen successors, of extorting higher and higher rents from the zamindars. The result was that the latter looked to their hereditary overlords for protection, and thus in the course of time all the revenue engagements were undertaken by a few great chieftains who attained the position of a nominal proprietor, which was confirmed to them for ever by the British Government after annexation. In 1821 Rai Singh, the chief of the Ahbans, had but a very small property; but his son, Khanjan Singh, acquired the

lease of Kasta, Abgaon and Maholi, as the zamindars by mutual agreement had declined the leases offered by the chakladar. His successor was Lone Singh, who "increased his estate from a rent-roll of forty to one of one hundred and fifty thousand rupees a year.* This was done partly by the action of the chakladar and partly by force. In 1847 he attacked his cousin, Munnu Singh of Mitauli, and seized his estate. In 1851 he acquired Kukra Mailani from an old widow lady whom he seized and confined, and about the same time he gained many villages in Haidarabad, Karanpur, Aliganj and Magdapur, all in a very similar manner. He also made war on his neighbours, the Chauhans of Oel and Mahewa, who had been seizing lands in the same fashion, and in 1842 took Paila with its 116 villages from Umrao Singh of Mahewa, and Atwa and Shankarpur from the Oel taluqa. These men joined forces with their cousin, the Raja of Kaimahra; but though they defeated Lone Singh in battle, they could not recover the lost property. In the end Lone Singh held possession of fifteen hundred villages and hamlets, and though his claim to most of this estate was only based on a recent usurpation, he was acknowledged proprietor in 1856 of all save about seventy, which were restored to the original owners. The action of the chakladars had resulted in the formation of a number of estates in Bhurwara by the Musalman Ahbans between 1821 and 1832; but they were not sufficiently strong or united to stand against either Lone Singh or the Chauhans, who absorbed large numbers of their villages. The latter in 1823 gained all Srinagar and in 1839 added most of Karanpur to their holdings. Similarly beyond the Chauka the widow of Raja Jodha Singh of Dhaurahra recovered the management of the pargana, which had been directly held by government since the days of Sital Parshad, and at her death in 1833 she had also gained most of Dharmanpur in Bahraich. In 1848 her successor, Arjun Singh, obtained the lease of all Dhaurahra, and it remained in the possession of the family till the mutiny. The other Jangres of Bhur also made themselves lords of large independent estates, and so did the Surajbansis of Khairigarh, who openly defied the revenue officials. The result of all this

* Sleeman, Vol. II, p. 89.

land-grabbing and internal war was that the district became largely depopulated and huge areas became waste. The whole country was subject to freebooters of different degrees. The great taluqdars plundered and harried all who did not submit to them, while the lesser men dealt out similar treatment to their neighbours. Of the latter the most notorious was Bhagwant Singh of Atwa, a descendant of the Bachhil, Chhipi Khan. This man haunted the Kathna jungles and extended his operations as far as Sandila in Hardoi, retreating to the forest when pursued. He continued his career of crime till 1841, when he was hunted down by the Oudh troops.*

Sir W. Sleeman. In 1850 Sir William Sleeman, the Resident at Lucknow, visited the district, and his diary gives a vivid description of the state of things then prevailing. The ámil of Muhamdi was then one Krishn Sahai, but he was displaced by court influence in favour of Abu Turab Khan, nephew of Munawar-ud-daula. The constant changes in the administration only rendered the taluqdars more secure, for none dare attack them; there were troops in the district indeed, but they were, if anything, a worse scourge than the grasping taluqdars. They were hopelessly inefficient, and their presence failed to act as a check to the local chieftains, and all the influence of the Resident was powerless to put a stop to the inter-tribal conflicts that were perpetually raging. For a full description of the condition of Kheri reference must be made to Sir W. Sleeman's own words. †

Annexation. The annexation of Oudh occurred in February 1856, and the country now comprised in Kheri at first constituted part of the two districts of Muhamdi and Mallanpur. The former was in the charge of Mr. James Thomason as Deputy Commissioner, and the latter, which was included in the Bahraich division, was administered by Mr. H. Gonne. These two officers effected the summary settlement of their respective districts and were also engaged in the general work of organization till their efforts were cut short by the outbreak of the mutiny.

The mutiny. The story of the mutiny in the Kheri district is a melancholy record with hardly a single redeeming feature. Muhamdi was one of the chief centres of disaffection in northern Oudh and

* Gazetteer of Hardoi, p. 141. | † Tour in Oude, Vol. II, pp. 56—118.

elsewhere: the great landholders, with the exception of those of Khairigarh, adopted an attitude of determined and prolonged resistance to the British rule. The district remained for a longer period under the rebel influence than any other except Bahraich and the punishments for rebellion were necessarily severe.

Signs of danger were observed by Mr. Thomason at Muhamdi early in May 1857. The garrison of that place consisted of two companies of the 9th Oudh Irregulars, a regiment that had been raised and commanded by Captain Patrick Orr, who was now Assistant Commissioner of Muhamdi, and a half company of military police. Trouble was feared from Sitapur, and the officers had made arrangements to take up their position in case of need in the Muhamdi fort. Nothing happened till the receipt of the news of the Shahjahanpur outbreak on the 31st of May, when Mr. Jenkins and a party escaped to Pawayan and thence wrote to Mr. Thomason to send carriage to enable the fugitives to reach Muhamdi. This he did, and at the same time he and Captain Orr determined to take measures for their own safety. Mrs. Orr and her child were sent to Mitauli to take refuge with the Raja Lone Singh under a guard from the 9th regiment. The Raja, however, refused to receive her into his fort and sent her to the small village of Kachauna in the jungles. In the mean time the officers at Muhamdi moved the treasure into the fort, which was garrisoned with the troops on the 1st of June. The next day the Shahjahanpur party, consisting of 16 men and 12 women and children, arrived at Muhamdi, and from that time the most alarming symptoms showed themselves among the troops. It was considered that the place, being so close to the borders of Rohilkhand, was not secure, and consequently it was resolved to retire on Sitapur. Mr. Thomason wrote to the Commissioner for an escort, which was despatched before the mutiny had broken out at that place. All the troops showed signs of mutiny; but Captain Orr persuaded them to remain with the party, and on the 4th of June they started, reaching Barwar in the evening. The sepoys had already secured the treasure in the fort, amounting to about Rs. 1,10,000 and released the prisoners. On the morning of the 5th they set out for Aurangabad, but when within half a mile of that place the troops set upon the party and the **Muhamdi.**

whole company was shot down with the exception of Captain Orr and a Christian drummer. The former was spared by the troops and was sent under a guard to the Raja of Mitauli and thence to Kachauna. When there, he heard of the escape of some of the Sitapur fugitives consisting of Sir Mountstuart Jackson and his sister, and Lieutenant Barnes, Sergeant-Major Martin, and the little daughter of Mr. Christian, the Commissioner of Sitapur. This party was brought to Kachauna, but Captain Orr and his wife were sent away into the jungles, where they remained till the departure of the rebel soldiers on the 18th of June, after which they returned to the mud fort at Kachauna. Here they were kept, suffering great privation and subject to repeated attacks of fever, till the 25th of October. They were then ordered to depart under a guard furnished by the Raja. With scant clothing, bare-footed, the men loaded with chains, they were taken to Lucknow and imprisoned in the Qaisarbagh, where they were kept in close captivity, although their sufferings were relieved to some extent through the influence of Maharaja Man Singh. On the 16th of November the men of the party were removed from their prison and shot by some sepoys of the 71st Native Infantry. A few days later the surviving daughter of Mr. Christian died. There then remained Mrs. Orr, Miss Jackson, and a child of the former. In order to save the child, her death was simulated and she was conveyed in safety to the house of Man Singh and ultimately to the British camp at the Alambagh. The ladies were kept in the Qaisarbagh till the 19th of March, when they were rescued by two British officers and a party of Gurkhas and brought safely to the camp of Sir James Outram.

Dhaurahra.

Another party of fugitives from Sitapur led by Captain John Hearsey succeeded in escaping into this district, and after being refused shelter by the Raja of Oel reached the fort of the Raikwar Raja of Dhaurahra, whence they were able to communicate with those at Kachauna. They remained in concealment till September, when they were sent into Lucknow by the Raja under an escort belonging to Har Parshad, the Nazim of Khairabad. During the second march they were warned of intended treachery and determined upon flight. Some of them escaped;

but the rest, after concealing themselves for some time, were recaptured and taken into Lucknow. This party, consisting of Mrs. Greene, Miss Jackson, Mr. Carew, and two others were subsequently murdered on the approach of Havelock's advance on the capital.

Captain Hearsey, however, did not share their fate. After the outbreak of the mutiny at Sitapur, disaffection had soon made itself evident at Mallanpur and the civil officers of that place, Mr. Gonne and Captain Hastings, together with Mr. Brown, a clerk, and Messrs. Carew and Brand of Shahjahanpur, had found themselves obliged to leave the station. They attempted to escape down the Ghagra, but hearing that the passage was unsafe were compelled to return to take refuge with the Dhaurahra party at the fort of Mathiari. From there they were taken with the rest towards Lucknow; but, as has been already mentioned, they escaped from their escort, going northwards towards Khairigarh. They reached Banbirpur in safety and while there heard news of the pursuit by a force sent from Dhaurahra. They at once set out towards the Mohan river, but were unable to cross the stream, and while endeavouring to find a ford the party was broken up and Mr. Carew and the others were captured in the jungle. The remainder took refuge in the forests, but lost their horses and property. Captain Hearsey and Captain Hastings swam the river and escaped to the village of Sonpatha in Nepal, where they were received in a friendly manner and sent on to Kalwapur, the property of Raja Kulraj Singh of Padnaha. Here they were joined by Mr. Brand, Sergeant-Major Rogers, and Mr. Gonne. They were still pursued by the Dhaurahra men, and fled to the forest of Shishapani at the foot of the hills, and thence to Dholikot, where they were protected by the Raja. Here Mr. Gonne died of fever, and the remaining four men continued to reside in the hills till the cold weather, when they came down to Balchaura in the Tarai with the Raja. Captain Hastings died there at the end of December, and the party then determined to escape to Balrampur. Captain Hearsey's intention was to join the force of Jang Bahadur; but on hearing that the road was held by the rebels he returned to Balchaura, and thence went through the Tarai to Barmdeo, from

Mallanpur.

which place he escaped safely to Naini Tal. The other two were sent off by the Raja to Bhutwal, where they died.

State of the district.

From this account it will be evident that the whole of the district had passed entirely out of the hands of the British, and at an early date came under the control of the rebel forces. The taluqdars had not generally sent contingents to the army at Lucknow, but openly sympathised with the rebel cause, though they chiefly turned their attention towards strengthening their own position. After the fall of the capital they took more active measures and united their forces with those of the Fyzabad Maulvi and other rebel leaders who had retired to the north of Oudh.

Military operations.

No military operations were possible in this district till after the capture of the capital. On the 30th of April, 1858, Sir Colin Campbell reached Shahjahanpur from Fatehgarh and found the place evacuated; it had been held by the Maulvi, but on the approach of the forces, the latter had managed to escape into Oudh, taking up his headquarters at Muhamdi. A small force was left at Shahjahanpur under Colonel Hale with four guns, but as yet no offensive measures could be attempted. On the departure of the main British force for Bareilly, the Maulvi, whose army had been swelled by the advent of Raja Lone Singh, determined to attack the small garrison at Shahjahanpur and marched on that town on the 2nd of May. He closely besieged the detachment, which was relieved on the 11th of May by Brigadier Jones, who defeated the rebels. The force, however, was not strong enough to undertake active operations, and remained entrenched till the 15th, when the Maulvi attacked them, but without success. Sir Colin Campbell thereupon marched again to Shahjahanpur, but the Maulvi refused battle and retired into Oudh. The British force then marched on Muhamdi, but found the place evacuated and destroyed, while the rebels had scattered into the jungles. No further operations were then possible and the district still remained in the hands of the mutineers, led by the Maulvi, who was killed at Pawayan by the Raja of that place on the 5th of June. Rohilkhand was with difficulty retained during the summer months, but nothing could be attempted in the districts to the east of Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur.

The great autumn campaign for the pacification of Oudh began in the middle of October, on the 17th of which month a force comprising the 93rd Highlanders, the 60th Rifles, Major Tombs' troop of horse artillery, the 6th Carabineers, Cureton's Multani horse and the 66th Gurkhas, left Shahjahanpur and marched to Pasgawan with the intention of clearing Muhamdi, Aurangabad, and other places and then proceeding to Sitapur. At Pasgawan the column, under Brigadier Colin Troup, met the rebels, who were strong in cavalry and attempted to outflank the force and attack the baggage. In this they were prevented by the Multani horse, who inflicted on them considerable loss. The force marched from Pasgawan to Rasulpur and Aurangabad, whence the baggage was sent to Muhamdi, while the troops entered the jungle in pursuit of the rebels and eventually captured Mitauli on the 8th of November. From that place they marched to the Sitapur district and in ten days the whole of the rebel force was driven across the Ghagra into Bahraich. With this, the mutiny may be said to have ended in the district, for at the end of the year there was no more armed resistance and the country was quickly pacified.

The autumn campaign.

After the restoration of order, civil administration was again introduced, and the newly-constituted district of Muhamdi organized by Mr. W. C. Wood, the first Deputy Commissioner. This officer undertook the new summary settlement and set on foot the fresh arrangement of tahsils and police-stations. The headquarters were moved to Lakhimpur as soon as the district courts and offices were completed. The subsequent history of the district has been uneventful, but is a record of continued progress and development. The chief occurrences, such as the settlements of the land revenue, the famines and scarcities, and the reservation of the forests, have already been mentioned in the preceding chapters.

Subsequent history.

GAZETTEER

OF

KHERI.

DIRECTORY.

GAZETTEER

OF

KHERI.

DIRECTORY.

CONTENTS.

ADLISPUR, *Pargana* FIROZABAD, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This village lies in latitude 27° 54′ north and longitude 81° 8′ east, between the pargana boundary on the west and the Dahawar on the east, at a distance of six miles south-east of the town of Dhaurahra. The village lands are 2,888 acres in extent and are fairly cultivated. The revenue is Rs. 2,650, and is paid by the Jangre taluqdar of Isanagar, the owner of the village. The population at the last census numbered 2,326 persons, including many Lodhs and a fair sprinkling of Musalmans. The bulk of the inhabitants reside in the main site, but there are several small hamlets in different parts of the village. There is a small school here, but nothing else of any interest or importance.

AHMADNAGAR, *Pargana* HAIDARABAD, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

A considerable village lying in latitude 28° 6′ north and 80° 25′ east, on the road from Gola to Khutar, at a distance of some three miles north-west of the former. It possesses a bazar in which markets are held twice a week and a village school. The population at the last census numbered 1,901 persons, of whom 1,611 were Hindus, chiefly Kurmis and Banias, and 290 Musalmans. The area of the village is 365 acres. The northern and eastern portions consist of an excellent soil, while to the west is a stretch of inferior swampy land in which the river Sarayan has its source. The revenue is Rs. 1,500 and is paid by the Saiyid taluqdar of Shahpur. Near the village are the ruins of a mud fort, overgrown with dense jungle.

ALIGANJ, *Pargana* BHUR, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This village, which in former days gave its name to part of the present pargana of Bhur, stands in latitude 28° 7′ north and longitude 80° 36′ east, on the main road from Lakhimpur to Pilibhit, at a distance of about 16 miles from the former. Branch

roads lead to Gola on the south-west, a distance of eight miles, and to Bijua on the north. There is a thriving bazar here, in which markets are held twice a week, a cattle-pound started in 1900, a school, and the ruins of an old mud fort. The village lands cover 1,031 acres, mostly of good soil, with a small patch of fine rice land in the north; but cultivation is poor, owing to the prevalence of high caste tenants, mainly Brahmans, although there is a fair number of Kurmis. The revenue is Rs. 850, and is paid by the Raja of Qila Partabgarh, to whom the village was given after the mutiny. The population of Aliganj itself numbered 1,237 souls at the last census, but the main site is contiguous with those of Sarai Ramuapur and Kusmauri, the total number of inhabitants being 2,590.

AMETHI, *Pargana* DHAURAHRA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A large and scattered village lying in latitude 28° 2′ north and longitude 81° 4′ east, in the centre of the pargana, between Dhaurahra on the south and Kafara on the north. The village lands are very extensive, covering no less than 8,018 acres: they are traversed by two streams, the southern one being known as the Hardhua, a branch of the Dahawar, running from west to east. There are several good sites, but much of the cultivation is in the hands of non-residents. The owner is the Jangre Chauhan taluqdar of Isanagar, who pays a revenue of Rs. 4,650. The population, which is divided up among the numerous hamlets and consists of Kurmis, Musalmans, and other cultivating castes, rose from 2,118 in 1891 to a total of 2,614 at the last census. There is a private ferry in the village over the Hardhua belonging to the taluqdar, but the place is otherwise unimportant save for its size.

AMIRNAGAR, *Pargana* MAGDAPUR, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

A large village in the northern half of the pargana, lying in latitude 27° 57′ north and longitude 80° 20′ east, on the direct road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi, at a distance of three miles from the left bank of the Gumti and about seven miles from the tahsil headquarters. A short distance to the west runs the branch road from Padaria to Aurangabad. The village lands cover 1,281 acres: the eastern half consisting of light loam, poor

in the north, but good towards the south-east, while the western portion lies on the edge of the *bhur* tract. The village is owned by the Saiyid taluqdar of Shahpur, and forms a portion of the Magdapur estate; it pays a revenue of Rs. 850. The population at the last census numbered 1,434 persons, residing in two adjoining sites. As many as 924 were Musalmans, the majority of whom are Pathans. Markets are held here twice a week.

ATKOHNA, *Pargana* SRINAGAR, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

A large village in the south of the pargana, lying in 27° 56′ north latitude and 80° 54′ east longitude, at a distance of seven miles east of Lakhimpur. Through the northern part of the village runs the old bed of the Chauka. The total area is 2,955 acres, and most of it is well cultivated by Muraos and others. The population in 1901 numbered 2,790 souls. There is a market here and a small school. The village belongs to the Chauhan taluqdar of Kaimahra, who pays a revenue of Rs. 2,500.

ATWA PIPARIA *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This is the northernmost pargana of the tahsil, being bounded on the south by Magdapur, on the east by Haidarabad and Kukra Mailani, on the west by Muhamdi and the Shahjahanpur district, the latter also forming the boundary to the north. Like Magdapur and Aurangabad, it forms part of the *duab* between the Kathna river on the east and the Gumti on the west. It is a small pargana, having in 1903 an area of 41,033 acres or 64 square miles. The tract is a poor one. Along the Kathna there is a belt of *sal* and other jungle, which harbours many wild animals and thus renders the neighbouring cultivation precarious. The central portion is a level plain of loam soil, of a fair consistency in the north and light in the south; the subsoil is, however, invariably sandy, and wells are difficult to construct. Along the Gumti is a small belt of *tarai*, of a precarious character; and between this and the central plain is a strip of sandy *bhur*, with a width of about two and a half miles. There is a slight depression down the centre of the pargana, drained by a small tributary of the Gumti.

The cultivated area at the first regular settlement amounted to 35 per cent. of the total area; but the figure is too high, as the waste land grants, which consisted almost wholly of jungle, were omitted. From 1887 to 1899 the average cultivation was 18,985 acres or 46·2 per cent. There was a great decline towards the end of this period, for the famine of 1897 was severely felt in the pargana; much of the land was abandoned and the inhabitants migrated to the Nighasan tahsil. The tract has recovered, but progress has been slow. The average area under the plough for the three years ending 1904 was 18,073 acres, and it was not till the last year that the old proportion of 46·2 per cent. was reached. Of the remaining land, 1,747 acres were classed as barren in 1903, but all save 42 acres were either under water or occupied by sites and roads. The grove land is very small, amounting to only 437 acres, but this is compensated by the abundance of jungle of which the bulk of the culturable waste still consists. The latter covered 19,810 acres, by far the greater part of this being land which has never been cultivated. Means of irrigation are generally deficient, but there has been a considerable improvement in this direction of late years. For the twelve years ending in 1899 the average irrigated area was only 8·12 per cent. of the cultivation, but in 1903 it rose to 3,000 acres, or 15·8 per cent. Unprotected wells are chiefly employed for this purpose, little more than one-tenth of the area being watered from tanks. The kharif is by far the more important harvest, the chief crops being bajra, urd and moth, with a fair amount of sugarcane and rice. In the rabi gram, barley and wheat constitute almost the whole of the produce. The double-cropped area averages some 1,500 acres.

Rents are naturally low, ranging at the settlement from Rs. 3-10-0 per acre of *goind* to Re. 1-4-0 for *bhur*, the average for the whole pargana being Rs. 2-4-0 per acre. The bulk of the land is held by low-caste resident tenants, chiefly Ahirs, Gadariyas and Muraos. Three-fourths of the rental is paid in cash. The revenue demand at the summary settlement was Rs. 7,715 rising to Rs. 8,946 at the first regular assessment. At the last settlement the final demand was fixed at Rs. 11,405, giving an initial incidence of only Re. 0-14-7 per acre of

cultivation. The enhancement amounted to about 18 per cent. and was made progressive.

The population of the pargana at the first Oudh census of 1869 numbered 8,796 souls. It rose to 10,575 in 1881, and at the following census to 15,439. The number of inhabitants declined with the cultivation in 1897, and in 1901 the pargana had a population of only 12,623 persons, of whom 6,684 were males and 5,939 females. Of these, 10,931 were Hindus, 1,691 Musalmans and one a Christian. There are 29 villages in the pargana, but none are of any size. Piparia had but 895 inhabitants, Atwa has disappeared, and the only place deserving mention is Sahibganj in the south-east corner, where a colony of Sansiahs has been established. Means of communication are poor. The road from Gola to Muhamdi and Shahjahanpur passes through the south, and a branch from it taking off at Mamri in Haidarabad leads to Piparia and Pawayan.

Formerly the pargana formed part of Barwar Anjana, which was broken up in 1743. The tract was originally held by the Bachhils, who waxed strong under the famous Chhipi Khan. On the break up of the Muhamdi *raj* many of them and some Brahmans obtained the engagement for their villages, and among them was the father of the notorious bandit, Bhagwant Singh, who held the fort of Atwa in the jungles along the Kathna. His history and end have been narrated in Chapter V. After his murder in 1841, his widow was allowed to hold the village of Atwa revenue free till annexation, while the rest was either under the direct management of the chakladars or else leased to farmers. In 1850 Captain Fida Husain, a native of Budaun and brother of the chakladar, Mir Muhammad Husain, was in command of the irregular regiment at Muhamdi and obtained the management of the pargana till annexation. On the strength of a deed of gift from Raja Ashraf Ali Khan he obtained the proprietary right and in 1859 the summary settlement was made with him. At his death the whole of his estate was sold in order to pay off the debts incurred by him. His family still reside at Piparia. The greater portion of the pargana was purchased by Mr. L. D. Hearsey of Mamri, who now owns twenty villages. Two belong to the Raja of Oel and one, Munda

Nizam, to the Mahewa estate, the former being subsettled with the old Bachhil proprietors. Of the remaining seven villages, three are the property of Government, two are held by Khattris, one by a Bania, and one by the old Kayasth family of qanungos.

AURANGABAD, *Pargana* AURANGABAD, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This large village, which gives its name to the pargana, stands in latitude 27° 47′ north and longitude 80° 21′ east, on the north side of the road from Lakhimpur to Chapartala, some five miles from the junction with the main road from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur. Branch roads run north to Magdapur and Padaria, and north-west to Muhamdi, a distance of 16 miles. The lands of Aurangabad are extensive, having an area of 2,302 acres. The north and east corner consists of sand-hills, while the rest is a good consistent loam except in the south and west where it is either a light loam or *bhur*. The village is divided into two mahals. The greater portion is held in taluqdari tenure by the Raja of Qila Partabgarh, who obtained it after the mutiny, and pays a revenue of Rs. 1,650, but a portion is subsettled with the wife of Saiyid Tasadduq Husain, representing the family of the Saiyid founder. The other mahal is only 51 acres in extent, assessed at Rs. 90, and held in pattidari tenure by Kayasths. The place had a population at the last census of 3,562 persons, of whom as many as 1,393 were Musalmans, the majority of them being Pathans. There is a bazar here in which markets are held twice a week, but the trade is unimportant. The police-station which formerly existed at this place has been removed to Mitauli, but there is a cattle-pound, started in 1892, a post-office and a village school here. Aurangabad was founded by Nawab Saiyid Khurram during the reign of Aurangzeb, from whom it received its name. The Nawab built here a brick palace and a square fort with hexagonal towers at each corner. The former is in a decayed state, but is still inhabited by some of the descendants of the founder. The fort is in a wholly ruinous condition and only the walls of one bastion are now standing. To the north-west of the village on the Muhamdi road is a monument maintained by Government and erected over the burying place of

the fugitives from Shahjahanpur who were massacred here in 1857. It is in the charge of Saiyid Tasadduq Husain, whose wife's father gave decent burial to the victims.

AURANGABAD *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This pargana forms the southern portion of the tahsil, and lies between the Gumti and Kathna rivers, the former separating it from Pasgawan on the west, and the latter from Kasta on the east. To the north is Magdapur, and to the south pargana Chandra of Sitapur. Generally speaking, the pargana is an inferior and most precarious tract, and no better than the rest of the *Parehar*. Along the Gumti is a narrow belt of *tarai* covered with grass, giving place to a broad stretch of high *bhur*. On the eastern side the banks of the Kathna are clothed with jungle as far south as Gulraha on the road from Aurangabad to Mitauli. This is being gradually cleared for cultivation, and much has disappeared during the last ten years. The whole of the north lies low and is full of swamps, which drain down to the rivers by various channels, the chief of which is the Kareri, a tributary of the Kathna. The southern half is mainly *bhur*, with a few villages of light loam and a sandy subsoil. The only good land is a small block to the east of Aurangabad and north of the Kareri. The total area is 69,715 acres or 109 square miles.

The cultivation is naturally poor and the plough duty is unusually high. Cattle-breeding is more profitable than agriculture and the small but sturdy Parehar animals have a well-deserved reputation. At the first regular settlement 52 per cent. of the land was cultivated, but since that date there has been some improvement. From 1884 to 1895 the average area under the plough was 36,027 acres, rising to 40,729 acres in the last year, while in 1904 the area tilled was as much as 46,370 acres or 66 per cent., the total having risen gradually since the settlement. The double-cropped area was only 3,408 acres, a very low proportion. The recorded culturable waste, including 1,665 acres under groves, was 18,461 acres, but most of this consists of wide expanses of *bhur* which could never be tilled profitably. The remaining 4,884 acres include 1,282 acres of barren land, the rest being either under water or occupied by roads and village

sites. The irrigated area is very small, and is mainly supplied by unprotected wells, which are difficult to construct and soon collapse. No irrigation is possible in the light undulating lands along the Gumti, while in the north there is rather a danger of saturation. Consequently the precarious villages are very numerous, no less than 59 out of a total of 113 being so classified. The kharif is generally the more important harvest, the chief crops being bajra, urd, moth and rice, with a fair amount of sugarcane in a few villages. In the rabi, barley largely predominates, followed by gram and wheat; the latter is chiefly mixed with other crops.

Rents run low, and are mainly paid in kind. At the last settlement the average cash rate was Rs. 4·29 per acre, varying from Rs. 4·56 for low caste to Rs. 3·84 for high caste tenants. The most numerous are Ahirs, Chamars, Brahmans and Rajputs. The pargana has always suffered from a scarcity of tenants, as the cultivators quickly migrate in bad seasons. The revenue at the summary assessment was Rs. 22,401 rising to Rs. 33,860 at the regular settlement. The final revenue now stands at Rs. 43,955, of which Rs. 370 represent the nominal demand of revenue-free lands. Seven mahals were assessed for a short term only, but a maximum revenue was fixed, so that it could be imposed at any time if circumstances should admit of its application.

The population of the pargana at the last census numbered 35,385 souls, being at the low rate of 324 persons to the square mile. In 1881 the total was 32,853 rising to 35,334 in 1891, so that for the following ten years it remained stationary. The only place of any size in the pargana is Aurangabad itself, which lies on the road from Lakhimpur to Chapartala, where it joins the metalled road from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur, which traverses the extreme south of the pargana. Other roads are those leading from Aurangabad to Muhamdi and Magdapur.

The pargana in former days belonged to the Saiyids of Barwar and their successors at Muhamdi, as has been narrated in Chapter V. It afterwards passed into the hands of the Ahbans, and when the estate of Raja Lone Singh was confiscated the land was given to strangers. At the present time there are 113 villages including the eight jungle grants along the Kathna. They are

divided into 243 mahals, of which only 16 are owned by taluqdars, three by Government, 77 in single and 116 in joint zamindari tenure, and 31 by pattidars. The taluqdars are the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, who owns eleven whole villages and four mahals, assessed at Rs. 4,980 and the Raja of Partabgarh, who owns a single mahal. Saiyids own 15 villages, which comprise the estate of Saiyid Tasadduq Husain of Aurangabad and of his wife, Jafri Begam, as well as that of the latter's sister. The Bachhils of Nakara own eight villages, while 24 others belong to Rajputs, chiefly Tomars, Gaurs and Bais; Brahmans own 38 villages, Kayasths nine, and the rest belong to Khattris, Banias, Kurmis and others.

BANBIRPUR, *Pargana* KHAIRIGARH, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A large village in the north-east of the pargana, lying in latitude 28° 24′ north and longitude 80° 59′ east, on the road from Singahi to Kakraula ghát on the Mohan and to the hills of Nepal, at a distance of some eight miles from Singahi. The lands of the village, which cover 3,122 acres and consist of fairly level expanse with higher ground to the south-west, are bounded by the Banbirpur forest on the north and east and by the Aintha *nala* on the south and west. To the east are the Patehri and Bhamrela jhils. The village forms part of the Khairigarh estate and pays a revenue of Rs. 1,500. The population in 1901 numbered 2,323 souls and consists largely of hillmen from Nepal. They reside for the most part in the main site, but there are two small hamlets to the north. There is a small primary school here and a cattle-pound dating from August 1893.

BARAGAON, *Pargana* SRINAGAR, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

A very large village in the east of the pargana, standing in latitude 27° 59′ north and longitude 80° 55′ east, some eight miles north-east of Lakhimpur and a short distance north of the road to Dhaurahra. It covers an area of 4,005 acres, lying between two old beds of the Chauka; it produces good crops of rice, but is dependent on the rainfall. The southern portion is higher and bears excellent rabi crops, especially in the vicinity of the main

site. The population of this and the numerous hamlets amounted at the last census to 3,841 souls, of whom nearly a third were Musalmans. The village pays a revenue of Rs. 2,700 and forms part of the Oel estate. There is a colony of Nats here which has been recently settled in the village. Markets are held in the village twice a week, and a small school is maintained here.

BARWAR, *Pargana* PASGAWAN, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

A large village of considerable historical interest situated in the east of the pargana, in latitude 27° 50′ north and longitude 80° 18′ east, on the branch road from Aurangabad to Muhamdi at a distance of some ten miles south-east of the latter and two miles from the Gumti. It formerly gave its name to an enormous pargana which comprised almost all the Muhamdi tahsil and a large portion of the Hardoi district. This was broken up on the death of Ibad-ullah Khan of Muhamdi, but Barwar remained the headquarters of a small pargana till 1869, when it was united with Pasgawan. The place figures prominently in the district history as being the headquarters of the great Saiyid family, the descendants of Sadr Jahan of Pihani. It contains the ruins of a brick fort built by Nawab Muqtadi Khan in the time of Aurangzeb as well as a decayed mud-walled *sarai*, two mosques and two Hindu temples. Barwar was held direct by Government from 1785 till the first regular settlement, when it was granted to Iradat Muhammad, who subsequently sold it. The village lands cover 1,452 acres and are divided at present into six mahals. The largest portion, covering 1,261 acres, is held in joint zamindari tenure by Brahmans and Saiyids; a small mahal of eight acres is owned by the Raja of Qila Partabgarh, and the remainder belongs to Kayasth, Saiyid and Bairagi zamindars. The total revenue is Rs. 2,060. In the immediate neighbourhood of the village site large quantities of poppy, tobacco and vegetables are grown. The rest of the soil is a good loam, except in the east towards the Gumti. The population at the last census numbered 4,054 souls, of whom 1,258 were Musalmans. Pasis constitute the most numerous Hindu caste. Barwar possesses a middle vernacular school, a small girls' school, a cattle pound opened in 1902, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. There is one sugar manufactory here.

BHIRA, *Pargana* BHUR, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This is the principal village of the northern half of the pargana, lying in latitude 28° 20′ north and longitude 80° 29′ east, on the road from Gola to Palia at a distance of some 35 miles from Lakhimpur. Branch roads lead to Bijua on the south-east and to Majhra Kalan and the Nepal border on the north. There is a railway station close to the village on the branch line from Mailani to Sonaripur. The market is of considerable importance and a large export trade has sprung up since the construction of the railway. Bhira contains a police-station located in a mud-built structure standing outside the village, a post-office, a cattle-pound and a primary school. The population, which in 1869 amounted to 1,741 souls, had risen at the last census to 2,201 persons, of whom 789 were Musalmans. Brahmans form the majority of the Hindu inhabitants. The village lands are very extensive, covering 6,822 acres, and stretching from the forest on the west to the Marhaya *nala* on the east. The soil is mostly a high loam, but is of a poor quality, while the place suffers from its unhealthy climate. The village is owned by the representatives of Raj Gobardhan Singh at a revenue of Rs. 1,350. The history of the family has been given in Chapter III.

BHUR *Pargana, Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This is the northernmost pargana of the Lakhimpur tahsil and consists of the north-western and larger portion of the tract lying between the Chauka and Ul rivers. The former separates it from Palia and Nighasan on the north and north-east, and the latter from Kukra-Mailani, Paila and Kheri on the south-west and south. The north-western boundary marches with the Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur districts, and the south-eastern with pargana Srinagar. Bhur covers an enormous extent of country, for in addition to some eighty square miles of reserved forest in the Bhira range on the west the area is 193,194 acres or 301 square miles. This amount is liable to vary on account of the erratic action of the Chauka. At annexation the tract consisted of two parganas known as Bhur and Aliganj, but these were shortly afterwards amalgamated. The forest area was appropriated by Government at an early date and was demarcated into

25 grants. Of the latter, eleven have been subsequently incorporated into the reserved forest, while five are held in fee-simple by taluqdars, six are regularly assessed to revenue, and three are the property of Government.

The forest land lies in the north and along the Ul in the west, while there is a patch of sál and other jungle in the centre. The bulk of the pargana is fairly open country and not of a high quality. There are two well-defined tracts of different characteristics roughly corresponding to the two original parganas. In the old Bhur portion the villages are mostly undulating, with a light soil, inclining to clay in the depressions, and extensive stretches of open grass waste. In Aliganj the villages are better: the surface is more level, and the soil a stiff loam with occasional ridges of light gritty soil. Groves, which are thin and scarce in the *bhur* tract, are here numerous, and the village sites are larger and more compact. In the south-east, along the Srinagar border, are a few villages with an alluvial soil resembling those of the adjoining pargana, and producing chiefly maize and rice. In the northern portion the Chauka is the predominating feature. Its course is most erratic and variable, especially in the north. There is the usual high bank, rising from 20 to 50 feet above the alluvial basin, but always at a considerable distance from the river. The lowlands are cut up by innumerable channels and water-courses which at some time or other have formed the temporary bed of the stream. Here and there are to be seen large semi-circular jhils, with a high sandy bank on one side and a marsh on the other, representing a bend in a deserted channel. The existing tributary streams of the Chauka are too numerous for a detailed description. In the north is the Marhaya, beyond which is a block of villages which are inundated by the Chauka floods and depend on the rice crop. Others are the Barauncha, flowing along the forest, the Junai and the Kandhwa. The Junai formed the boundary of the Aliganj pargana from its source in the central block of forest to the Srinagar border; the rest of the boundary was afforded by the Barauncha as far as the Bhira forests.

It is only natural that a large portion of the pargana should be of a precarious character owing to its unhealthy climate

and the general uncertainty of the agriculture. The Chauka everywhere renders cultivation unstable in the north, and in the vicinity of the forest much damage is done by wild animals. Most of these villages, however, belong to large estates. The most precarious parts of the Aliganj tract are the villages of Haraia, Bhatpurwa, Mushki, Basantpur and Mukaddarpur along the Ul, and Mirzapur and Amirtapur on the Junai near the Srinagar border.

The proportion of cultivated land is necessarily somewhat low. At the first regular settlement it amounted to 49 per cent. and since that time there has been a considerable development, though much depends on the nature of the season. The famine of 1897 affected the pargana in a marked degree, for cultivation greatly declined, although the subsequent recovery has been complete. In 1904 the area under the plough was 100,574 acres or 52 per cent. of the whole, excluding the reserved forests. No less than 70,891 acres were classed as culturable, the total comprising 3,961 acres under groves, 33,649 acres of fallow, and 33,198 acres of unreclaimed waste, much of which would never repay cultivation. The barren area is mainly under water or occupied by roads and sites, only 3,510 acres being classed as actually unculturable. The standard of cultivation is low, except round Aliganj and a few villages further north. The holdings are unusually large, and the tenants are constantly changing. The kharif harvest is always much larger than the rabi, and on an average about 16 per cent. of the area cultivated bears a double crop. Rice is by far the most important staple, occupying nearly 60 per cent. of the cultivation in the Aliganj circle; next come urd, kodon, sugarcane, and maize in the kharif, while in the rabi wheat takes the lead, followed by barley and gram. There is practically no irrigation except in the Aliganj tract, where unprotected wells are numerous and can be made without great difficulty.

Rents are generally very low, and are paid in kind for about half the cultivated area. At the last settlement the average cash rate was only Rs. 2·4 per acre for resident and Re. 1·8 per acre for non-resident tenants, the latter being very numerous. The chief cultivating castes are Chamars, followed by Ahirs, Kurmis, Brahmans, Pasis and Musalmans. The

Kurmis and other good tenants are scarce, save in the best villages, and their average rate was Rs. 3·7. The revenue at the summary assessment was Rs. 36,703 and at the regular settlement was raised to Rs. 73,075, to which small additions were subsequently made by reason of the resumption and assessment of some of the grants. The present final demand stands at Rs. 98,763, including Rs. 98,233 actually payable and Rs. 530 nominal. The alluvial mahals were assessed at Rs. 525 in 1901.

The population of the pargana at the 1881 census numbered 8,894 souls. This rose in 1891 to 89,256, but a great decrease followed the famine of 1897, and at the ensuing enumeration the total number of inhabitants had fallen to 80,298, of whom 42,393 were males and 37,905 females. Hindus numbered 71,831, Musalmans 8,387, while 80 were Christians, Aryas and others. These figures exclude the forest population, which is small and migratory. There are no towns in the pargana and few large villages; the chief are Bhira, Aliganj and Bijua, each of which has been separately mentioned. The old village of Bhur has long disappeared, though its site is still pointed out near Aliganj. Means of communication are fair. The north-west is traversed by the branch line from Mailani to Sonaripur, with a station at Bhira; but this only runs from January to June. Through the south runs the road from Lakhimpur to Pilibhit, from which branches take off at Aliganj, one leading to Gola and the other to Bijua. The south-east is traversed by the road from Lakhimpur to Khairigarh, crossing the Chauka by the Sirsi ferry, near which a branch leads to Bijua and Bhira. The latter is on the road from Gola to Palia, much of which runs through the forest. The exteme eastern corner is crossed by the road from Lakhimpur to Nighasan *viâ* Pachperi ferry on the Chauka.

Nothing is known of the early history of the pargana, which contains many old sites of great antiquity. It seems probable that the forests are of comparatively recent origin, for the numerous brick-strewn heaps along its edge, denoting former villages, and the remnants of masonry that are to be found in the most remote spots, give credence to the popular tradition that this tract was once cultivated and populous. In later days the Bachhils were the ruling clan, and this great chieftain, Chhipi Khan, had his

stronghold at Kamp in the extreme north-west, where the ruins of his fort and a temple are to be seen. After their overthrow the Ahbans seized Aliganj, and Bhur passed into the hands of the Jangre ancestors of the present taluqdars of Bhira and Ramnagar. Most of the Ahbans are Musalmans. The pargana now contains 175 villages, divided into 217 mahals. Of the latter, 102 are held by taluqdars, three are Government property, 80 are held in single and 19 in joint zamindari tenure, ten are pattidari and three bhaiyachara. The chief landowners are the Jangres, of whom the Bhur taluqdar owns 43 mahals, while 30 belong to the Bijua estate. The Raja of Oel has eight mahals, known as the Rasulpanah estate, and the Rani of Mahewa four mahals. Three villages belong to the Raja of Partabgarh, two to the Rana of Khajurgaon, and eleven villages and one mahal in the old Aliganj pargana, constituting the Mirzapur estate, to the Musalman taluqdar of Jalalpur. In addition to these, 19 villages are owned by Musalman, and 14 by Hindu, Ahbans; two belong to Saiyids and nine to Pathans; nine to the Goshains of Gola, seven to Brahmans, six to Kayasths, two to Banias, one to Kurmis, and two are the property of Europeans. The chief zamindars are the Musalman Ahbans of Bhurwara, now represented by Muhammad Khalil-ullah Khan, who owns 16 whole villages and part of one other; and the Hindu Ahbans of Bansi, a property consisting of one whole village and shares in six others. The old Bachhil proprietors have completely disappeared.

BIJUA, *Pargana* BHUR, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This village lies in the centre of the pargana, in latitude 28° 16′ north and longitude 80° 37′ east, on the road from Bhira to Dariabad and Khairigarh, which is here joined by a branch road running northwards from Aliganj. It is a large village with several hamlets, covering a total area of 4,641 acres. The northern portion is intersected by the Marhaya *nala*, a tributary of the Chauka, while along the southern boundary flows the Baraunchа. Cultivation is stable, but poor; the place has declined of late years, for in 1891 there were 2,832 inhabitants, while at the last census the total had fallen to 2,273. The great majority

of the residents are Chamars. The village is assessed at Rs. 1,900, and is chiefly noticeable as being the headquarters of the taluqa of the late Raj Gobardhan Singh of the Jangre family of Bhur. There is a school here, a bazar in which markets are held twice a week and a cattle-pound dating from October 1901.

BIRSINGHPUR, *Pargana* FIROZABAD, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A large taluqdari village belonging to the Raikwar Raja of Mallanpur. It lies in latitude 27° 52′ north and longitude 81° 13′ east on the road from Isanagar to Firozabad, at a distance of little more than a mile south of the former. The village lands cover 1,333 acres and consist of high level soil of good quality and well cultivated. They are assessed to a revenue of Rs. 1,675. The place contained at the last census a population of 2,423 souls, of whom one-fifth were Musalmans. Kurmis are the chief cultivating caste. There is a large upper primary school here, but no bazar, the market being held at Isanagar.

DAULATPUR, *Pargana and Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A village on the left bank of the Chauka and on the road from Lakhimpur to Khairigarh, in latitude 28° 16′ north and longitude 80° 47′ east. It consists of a large number of hamlets scattered over an area of 3,611 acres. It contained at the last census a population of 2,463 persons, a large proportion of whom are Muraos. The village is well cultivated, consisting for the most part of rice land, while to the south towards the river the soil is lighter and a large amount of maize is grown. The revenue demand is Rs. 2,400 and is paid by the heirs of Gobardhan Singh, the Jangre taluqdar of Bijua. Markets are held twice a week in the adjoining village of Bamhanpur.

DHAURAHRA, *Pargana* DHAURAHRA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

The capital of the pargana is a small town on the south bank of the Sukhni river in the centre of the pargana, standing in latitude 27° 59′ north and longitude 81° 6′ east, at a distance of 20 miles by the unmetalled road from Lakhimpur. Other roads lead to Sisaiya on the road from Isanagar to Matera ghát, and to Kardhaiya on the road from Matera to Nighasan. To

the north and west of the town there are numerous groves. Dhaurahra contains a police-station, cattle-pound, post-office, a branch dispensary and a village school. The thana is a *kachcha* building, situated to the south of the town. A market is held here twice a week. The population in 1901 numbered 5,669 persons, of whom 3,564 were Hindus, 2,096 Musalmans, and 9 Christians. In addition to these there are 756 persons residing in hamlets beyond the limits of the Act XX town. The place has grown largely since 1869, when there were but 4,256 inhabitants. There are three mosques and four temples in the place.

Dhaurahra occupies a position of some interest in local annals. It is said to derive its name from Deorha, a small ruined temple or *matasthan* near the town, and according to tradition was the capital of a Pasi principality, which was overthrown by the Bisens. At a later date it became famous as the place where the Jangre Raja, Jodha Singh, was killed in the fight with Raja Sital Parshad, the Nazim of Khairabad. His tomb and that of his slayer, a Saiyid, follower of the Nazim, lie within a stone's throw of each other.

During the mutiny of 1857, the fugitives from Shahjahanpur and Muhamdi, escaping towards Lucknow, sought the protection of the Dhaurahra Raja, but he, being pressed by the Lucknow Darbar, gave them up to their enemies. For this disloyalty to British rule, the Raja was tried and hanged; his estates were confiscated, and a portion of them, comprising seventeen villages containing 43 square miles, was made over as part of a grant to Captain John Hearsey, of the old Oudh Contingent, for good service rendered to the British Government. This estate was sold by Captain Hearsey to Colonel Boileau, of the Bengal Cavalry, who again sold it to the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, the present owner. The latter's agent for his Kheri property, who is generally an honorary magistrate, has his headquarters here.

Dhaurahra is administered under Act XX of 1856. The Act was first applied in 1876; but in September, 1881, the town was constituted a municipality. The latter was abolished with effect from the 1st of July, 1889, and the provisions of Act XX

were again applied in the following month. The income is derived from the usual house-tax which in 1903 amounted to Rs. 460, giving an incidence of Re. 0-14-3 per assessed house and Re. 0-1-5 per head of population. The town contained 979 houses, of which 517 were assessed to taxation. The total income for the year, including a balance of Rs. 149, was Rs. 809, the remainder being derived from various sources. The expenditure was Rs. 651, and was devoted to the usual objects; Rs. 342 to the up-keep of the police force, Rs. 180 to conservancy, Rs. 100 to minor local improvements, and the rest to the cost of collection and other miscellaneous heads.

DHAURAHRA *Pargana, Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This is a very large pargana in the east of the district, and consists of a stretch of country extending eastwards from the Chauka, which separates it from Srinagar of the Lakhimpur tahsil. On the north it is bounded by pargana Nighasan, on the south by the Tambaur pargana of Sitapur, and on the east by the Bahraich district and pargana Firozabad. The Bahraich boundary is the river Kauriala or Ghagra, and that of Sitapur on the south is for some distance formed by the Dahawar, a stream which now carries the bulk of the waters of the Chauka into the Ghagra. Washed on three sides by rivers, all more or less erratic in their action, the area of the pargana is necessarily a variable quantity. At the first regular settlement it was 166,453 acres, but since that time it has increased by nearly 10,000 acres, the total in 1904 being 175,527 acres or 274 square miles, while at the last settlement it was very much larger.

All the rivers come down in flood during the rains, but their action varies greatly. The deposit left by the Kauriala is very unfertile, as the current is so strong that only the heavy particles of sand remain: consequently the land along that river is poor and sandy, and the villages are inferior and cut up by numerous ravines and watercourses. The Chauka, on the other hand, is a beneficial stream, in spite of its vagaries: it brings down quantities of rich alluvial deposit locally known as *pan*, which produces good crops of rice in years of favourable flooding. Unusually heavy floods, however, bring sand instead, and at all

times the alluvial deposit is inferior to the old high land which is cut away. The interior of the pargana is a plain of considerable fertility, but cut up and broken by a maze of streams and water-courses, the chief of which are the Sukhni and the upper reaches of the Dahawar. The soil is generally loam, but here and there are to be found expanses of poor gritty soil, locally termed *tapar* or *bhur*, while in the depressions there is clay. These depressions are similar to those in pargana Bhur, and are generally formed by bends in old water-channels; the largest is a fine and picturesque sheet of water lying to the south of Ramia Bihar. The whole tract is feverish and unhealthy, and many of the inhabitants suffer from goitre. There is no forest in the pargana, the waste lands being covered with tamarisk and dense grass jungle. Most of the villages are precarious naturally, especially, those along the rivers; but as they belong to large estates they require no special attention.

The cultivation is on the whole poor, though fairly good in the villages of the central tract. The average holdings are unusually large and a very high percentage of the land is held by non-resident tenants. The kharif harvest is by far the more important, occupying nearly 80 per cent. of the total area cultivated, as against some 47 per cent. in the rabi. The double-cropped area is large, amounting to about 27 per cent. on an average. Rice, maize and kodon constitute almost the entire kharif harvest, the first predominating in the west, and the others in the east of the pargana. The rice crop depends on the river floods, being apt to fail if they are excessive or deficient; the best villages are those which grow both rice and maize. Sugarcane is almost unknown in this pargana, which thus presents a great contrast to those of the Muhamdi tahsil. In the rabi, barley takes the lead, followed by wheat and peas, which together occupy nearly the whole sown area. There is practically no irrigation, as is the case throughout the Nighasan tahsil. The area cultivated is fairly large, considering the general nature of the tract. At the first regular settlement it amounted to 54 per cent. of the whole, and the subsequent development has been but small. At the last assessment it had increased slightly, but so had the total area of the pargana, and the proportion remained the same. In 1904 the

land under the plough covered 96,088 acres or nearly 55 per cent.; but the increase is much greater if the extension of double-cropping be taken into account. The culturable area was 52,281 acres, including 3,967 acres of groves and a large amount of fallow, both old and new, 28,533 acres in all: much of the remainder would not repay tillage. The barren area, 27,158 acres, is mainly under water, most of the rest being occupied by sites and groves while the actually unculturable land was only 3,735 acres.

Grain rents are somewhat more prevalent than money payments. At the last settlement the average cash rental was Rs. 2·6 per acre—a very low figure. The cultivators are mainly low caste: Ahirs are the most numerous, followed by Chamars, Kurmis, Muraos, Brahmans, Musalmans and Pasis. The last claim descent from the Rajpasis, who are said to have held the pargana in ancient days; the Kurmis, too, were once the lords of the soil in the south. Many of them were afterwards settled here by Shuja-ud-daula. Muraos pay the highest rent, about Rs. 4 on an average, while Rajputs and Kayasths pay under a rupee per acre. The revenue at the summary assessment was Rs. 37,142 rising to Rs. 81,325 at the regular settlement. The present final demand stands at Rs. 1,05,330 gross and Rs. 1,01,840 net: the temporary demand for the alluvial mahals, settled in 1901, is Rs. 3,490.

The population of the pargana in 1881 was 88,334. This rose to 89,928 and at the last census Dhaurahra contained 90,520 inhabitants, of whom 46,992 were males and 43,528 females. Classified by religions, there were 78,918 Hindus, 11,588 Musalmans, and 14 Sikhs and others. The only town in the pargana is Dhaurahra; but there are many large villages, especially in the north. The chief are Ramia Bihar, Simri, Kafara, Dulhi and Matera, which are separately described. Communications are fair, but are greatly interrupted by the numerous streams. In the south there are no roads, but Dhaurahra is connected by unmetalled roads, with Lakhimpur on the west, Firozabad on the south-east, and Nighasan on the north-west. From the last a branch runs to Matera on the Kauriala, whence another road runs south to Sisaiya and Firozabad.

The history of the pargana is obscure. It is said to have been held in mediæval times by Alha, the Banaphar warrior of Jaya

Chandra of Kanauj. It was later the property of the Pasis and then of the Bisens. The pargana was not known by this name till 1734, when it was constituted by Safdar Jang out of Khairigarh, Firozabad, Kheri, and perhaps Qila Nawagarh. It was then held by the Jangres, who came in the reign of Alamgir and seized Dhaurahra and a vast extent of country. They ejected the Bisens after continuous fighting up to 1822. The subsequent history is that of the Jangres up to the mutiny, and the story has been told in Chapter V. When the Dhaurahra estate was confiscated nearly three-quarters of the pargana came into the hands of Government and was distributed to Captain Hearsey, Captain Orr, and others, much of whose land was subsequently purchased by the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala. At the present time the pargana contains 121 villages, divided into 133 mahals. Of the latter, 74 are owned by taluqdars three are Government property, 47 are held in single, and nine in joint zamindari tenure. There are no coparcenary communities in Dhaurahra. The chief taluqdars are the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, with the Dhaurahra estate of 21 mahals; the Rani of Khairigarh with the Kafara estate of 20 mahals; and the Kayasths of Sarawan Baragaon in Hardoi, who own 14 mahals known as the Sarsawa property. Others are the Saiyid taluqdar of Jalalpur in Hardoi, holding six mahals known as the Muhammadpur estate; the Jangre taluqdar of Isanagar with six mahals; the Chauhan Raja of Oel, who has the single village of Bhanwanpur; the Rani of Mahewa with three mahals; the Gaur taluqdar of Katesar, who owns the single village of Khanipur; and Mr. Hearsey of Mamri, who has two villages known as the Gulariha and Matera grants. The chief zamindars are the Sikh grantees, Sardar Jogendra Singh of Aira, who owns twelve villages, and Sardar Sant Singh of Raini with ten villages. The remaining land is chiefly in the possession of Kayasths, Kurmis, Lodhs, and Rajputs of different clans.

DULHI, *Pargana* DHAURAHRA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A very large village on the northern borders of the pargana, lying in latitude 28° 9′ north and longitude 80° 58′ east, some four miles west of Ramia Bihar and two miles to the south of Kardhaiya on the road from Nighasan to Matera. The

village lands cover no less than 6,239 acres: the eastern half lies low and is subject to flooding from the large Karsari jhil on the boundary, but the western portion is higher and produces fine crops of maize. The population is somewhat scattered, but most of the inhabitants reside in the main site which clusters round the ruins of the old fort. At the last census Dulhi contained 3,902 inhabitants, of whom 555 were Musalmans. Lodhs are the prevailing Hindu caste. The village belongs to the Rani of Khairigarh, having formerly been included in the confiscated Raikwar estate, and is assessed to a revenue of Rs. 4,250. There is a small school here and a bazar.

FIROZABAD, *Pargana* FIROZABAD, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

The place which gives its name to the pargana of Firozabad is an insignificant village in the south-east corner of the district, lying in latitude 27° 49′ north and longitude 81° 15′ east, between the Kauriala and the branch road from Isanagar to Katauli and Mallanpur, at a distance of 6 miles south-east of Isanagar and eighteen miles from Dhaurahra. The place is said to have been founded by Firoz Shah on his journey to Bahraich, but it has no history and the sole remnants of antiquity are the ruins of a small mud fort. The population at the last census numbered 1,089 souls, including 101 Musalmans, the bulk of the inhabitants being Lodhs and Ahirs. The village belongs to the Raja of Mallanpur. It has an area of 895 acres, and is well cultivated; most of the land is highlying loam, but in the north there is a depression, while the centre is traversed by a small watercourse. The revenue is Rs. 1,075. An aided school is maintained here. The cattle-pound is in the adjoining village of Sheikhupur.

FIROZABAD *Pargana, Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This pargana occupies the extreme south-eastern corner of the district, extending north and west from the point of junction of the Kauriala on the east, which separates it from the Bahraich district, and the Dahawar river on the south, which forms the Sitapur boundary. To the west and north lies pargana Dhaurahra, from which it is divided by an artificial boundary. The

western portion of the pargana is drained by the Sukhni river, which flows in an extremely irregular course from north to south into the Dahawar at the south-western corner of the pargana and which probably represents an old channel of the latter river. The Dahawar as well as the Chauka is very erratic and changes its course from year to year. Up to 1895 the Dahawar was an insignificant stream, but the result of the floods of that year was that the Dahawar formed a connection between the Chauka and the Kauriala and for a time carried along its channel the bulk of the waters of the former river, which has now partly returned to its former bed. Being thus washed on three sides by constantly-changing rivers, the area of the pargana varies from year to year. Very recently two villages have been cut off by the Kauriala and are now included in the Bahraich district, and this sort of thing is continually taking place.

The total area of the pargana, at the recent settlement, was 106,454 acres or 166 square miles. In 1872 the area was 162 square miles; while in 1904 there had been a still further increase, as the total was recorded as 110,015 acres or nearly 173 square miles. The whole of the south of the pargana is cut up by channels and ravines. The villages are situated on the high land, while there is a varying quantity of low-lying land on which a good deal of rice is grown. As far as this pargana is concerned the Kauriala is a useless river. The annual floods leave behind them nothing but sand in the *tarai*, as owing to the violence of the stream the lighter particles which should form loam are carried away, leaving merely the heavier sand. The Chauka and the Dahawar on the other hand in ordinary years leave a fairly rich and useful loam behind them, the deposit being locally known as *pan*. The central tract of the pargana is a fine level plain of stable cultivation, the soil being a good loam, easily worked, with no necessity for irrigation, which is practically non-existent here. In the west and south-west are some mixed villages, like those in Dhaurahra, in which rice is grown in the lowlands and maize in the higher fields. The villages along the rivers are precarious and apt to suffer from floods; those along the Dahawar were greatly damaged in 1895, when large tracts of good soil were cut away by the river as it

widened its channel; but all belong to large estates and require no special attention.

The cultivation in the central tract is good, when good tenants are available. In other parts it is generally poor by reason of the uncertainty of the returns. The holdings are very large, averaging well over six acres, and, as in Dhaurahra also, a very considerable percentage of the land is cultivated by non-resident tenants. The cultivated area at the first regular assessment amounted to 55 per cent. of the whole. During the course of the settlement there was a slight but varying increase, and at the new assessment the proportion was over 56 per cent. Since that date the increase has been maintained, and in 1904 the area under the plough was 59,507 acres or nearly 55 per cent., while the extension of double-cropping has been more rapid, 19,415 acres bearing two crops in that year, this being the largest amount on record. The culturable area, including 3,409 acres of grove land, was 31,648 acres, two-thirds of this being fallow of very varying quality. Of the remaining area, 4,153 acres were classed as barren, an unusually high proportion, and the rest was either under water or occupied by sites and buildings. As in Dhaurahra, the kharif is by far the more important harvest. The principal crops are kodon, rice and maize, with a very little sugarcane; and in the rabi barley, followed at a considerable distance by wheat, peas, gram and a fair amount of poppy and garden cultivation.

Rents are mainly paid in cash in the better lands, but in the more precarious villages grain rents predominate. The average cash rate at the last settlement was Rs. 3·1 per acre: the amount is small, but considerably higher than the average for Dhaurahra. Low caste tenants paid Rs. 3·8, while the rate for Brahmans and others of high caste was only Rs. 2·2. The chief cultivating castes are Lodhs, Ahirs, Brahmans, Musalmans, Gadariyas and Kurmis. There is also a fair number of Muraos, who pay Rs. 5 per acre of garden land. The revenue demand of the pargana at the summary assessment was Rs. 32,384, and this was raised to Rs. 55,305 at the regular settlement. The present final demand stands at Rs. 67,885, including Rs. 575 temporarily assessed in 1901 on the alluvial mahals. The final revenue gives an enhancement of 25 per cent. on the former assessment.

The population of the pargana at the census of 1881 numbered 55,006. Since that date there has been a considerable increase: the total rose to 61,110 in 1891, and at the last census there were 63,641 inhabitants, of whom 33,087 were males and 30,554 females. Classified according to religions, there were 55,504 Hindus, 8,109 Musalmans and 28 others, chiefly Christians. The only town in the pargana is Isanagar; Firozabad itself is an insignificant village, and besides these there is hardly a place with a population of any size, except Sisaiya in the north and the scattered agricultural villages of Birsinghpur and Adlispur. The pargana is difficult of access owing to the rivers and the numerous small streams, and communications are poor. A road leads from Dhaurahra to Isanagar and Katauli in the south, and from this a branch takes off at Sisaiya, running north to Matera on the Kauriala.

The history of the pargana is almost identical with that of Dhaurahra. It was formerly held by the Bisens, who were expelled after repeated conflicts by the Jangre Chauhans of Bhur. These were in turn brought low at the death of Raja Jodha Singh in 1777. One of his relatives, Chain Singh, was allowed a few patches of land rent-free for his maintenance; but he gradually increased his possessions and in 1797 acquired the mahal of Isanagar, which is now represented by the taluqa of that name. The south of the pargana belongs to the Raikwars of Mallanpur, a branch of the Baundi house in Bahraich. Their property at first lay in the Sitapur district, but one of the Mallanpur chieftains crossed the Dahawar and seized the lands in the south of this pargana, which apparently were then held by the Brahmans of Gopalpur and others who claim to have obtained their rights from Maharaja Tikait Rai, the minister of Asaf-ud-daula. At the present time the pargana contains 88 villages, divided into 95 mahals. Of the latter, 93 are owned by taluqdars and the remaining two in joint zamindari tenure; they form a single village, owned by Kurmis. The chief taluqdar is the Raikwar Raja of Mallanpur, who holds 51 villages and three mahals; 25 villages and six mahals belong to the Jangre taluqdar of Isanagar, and two villages and six mahals to the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, being part of the confiscated estate of Dhaurahra.

GOLA, *Pargana* HAIDARABAD, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

A small but famous town in the north-east corner of the pargana, lying in latitude 28° 5′ north and longitude 80° 28′ east, on the north side of the main road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi, at a distance of 22 miles from the district headquarters. Branch roads lead north-west to Khutar in Shahjahanpur, north to Bhira, and north-east to Aliganj. Less than a mile to the east of the town is the railway station. The population in 1891 numbered 4,311 souls and at the last census had risen to 4,913, of whom 3,760 were Hindus, 1,133 Musalmans and 20 Christians and others. Gola is administered under the provisions of Act XX of 1856, which was applied in 1905, and contains a police-station, dispensary, post-office, cattle-pound, and a large upper primary school. Markets are held here twice a week, and the place is one of the principal trade centres of the district.

The town is picturesquely situated on some small hills, on the bank of the vanished river Ganga, whose course is marked by a ridge of sand stretching away to the south. The bazar lies to the west, and here a busy trade is carried on in grain and sugar. To the east is the celebrated temple of Gokarannath, and its great tank, round which are clustered the many smaller temples, *dharamsalas*, and the monasteries of the Goshains. Gola is one of the most sacred spots in Oudh, and here an immense assemblage, aggregating on an average some 150,000 persons, congregates twice annually in Phagun and Chait for fifteen days on each occasion. Pilgrims and traders come hither from long distances, travelling by road and rail; many bring Ganges water to pour over the famous *lingam* of Mahadeo in the great temple. Their offerings are taken by the priests, but a cess of one anna in the rupee is levied by Government to defray the expenses of the fair management.

The place is of extreme antiquity, but little remains to interest the archæologist. Originally Gola was doubtless a centre of Buddhist worship; traces of this religion are still to be seen in several bas-reliefs built into the temple walls, and in the neighbourhood terra-cotta images of pure Buddhist types have from time to time been found. Possibly, too, the Goshains and their monasteries are an evolution from the Buddhist priesthood. The

temple of Mahadeo is a shivala of the ordinary type, with this peculiarity that it stands below the level of the surrounding ground, the *lingam* standing in a kind of well about four feet deep. This temple is supposed to be the central spot of a large tract of sacred ground. There are four gates on the borders of this holy land, at an equal distance of twelve *kos* or eighteen miles from the centre. These are at Deokali in the east, Shahpur on the north, Mati in Shahjahanpur on the west and Barkhar on the south. At Deokali there is still a Surajkund, a tank built in honour of the sun, at which religious assemblies take place, and possibly, in days previous to Buddhism, Gola was a centre of sun worship. Through one of these gates all pilgrims are supposed to pass before approaching the shrine.

The tombs of the Goshains are small structures with fluted cupolas, and are evidently taken from the pattern of Buddhist stupas. They are supposed to be celibates and are buried, as usual, in a sitting posture. Most of the tombs stand close to the great tank, a masonry structure surrounded by flights of steps coming down to the water.

The ancient history of Gola is now merely a matter of tradition. According to the Goshains the image of Mahadeo came here by pure accident. When the giant Ravana was attempting to carry Mahadeo to Ceylon, the deity told him that he would only suffer his image to be removed on condition that it should not touch ground, as where it should be placed, there it would remain. Ravana accordingly set out and on arriving at Gola, was obliged to entrust his charge to an Ahir boy for a few minutes. The boy grew tired and placed the stone on the ground, where it remained, and Ravana on his return was unable to move it. The origin of the tank and the brick cylinder in the centre, whence the water-supply is maintained, is said to be as follows:—A young Brahman girl happened one day to kill a calf, and in horror at the deed ran off to hang herself, choosing by chance the tree that grew over the stone of Gola. By her action she disturbed the deity, who bade her leave him in peace and go dig in a spot hard by. She went to her relations and told her story. They helped her to dig and, after making a deep excavation, found the calf buried alive. This hole became the source of the tank. The

water-supply is very scanty and the tank has no outlet, so that the water becomes of a dull green colour and very impure. After one of the big festivals it is absolutely filthy; respectable pilgrims indeed decline to bathe in it, and instead put a drop of water on their forehead, a ceremony called *marjan*, which is held to be equally efficacious.

The *lingam* is a round stone, probably a portion of a Buddhist pillar. It bears the mark of a heavy blow, caused, according to one account, by the thumb of Ravana, or else, a more probable account, by the mace of an iconoclast Musalman. The story goes that Aurangzeb attempted to pull up the stone with chains and elephants, but without avail, and that when the emperor approached the spot, flames burst out of the ground, and the dismayed monarch consequently endowed the shrine with extensive rent-free lands.

HAIDARABAD, *Pargana* HAIDARABAD, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This village, which gives its name to the pargana, lies in latitude 28° 3′ north and longitude 80° 25′ east, on the east side of the unmetalled road from Kasta to Mamri, at a distance of a mile and a half from its junction with the road from Lakhimpur and Gola to Shahjahanpur and five miles south-west from Gola. The place is said to have been founded by one Saiyid Haidar, and was in the possession of the Pihani Saiyids, the builders of the now ruined brick fort, during their occupation of Muhamdi. It afterwards passed into the hands of the Ahbans, but when Lone Singh's property was confiscated in 1858 it was bestowed on the Raja of Partabgarh, whose successor now holds it. The inhabitants reside in a single site and about one-third of them are Musalmans. The population, which in 1891 numbered 1,559, amounted at the last census to 1,731. They are mainly agriculturists, but there are a few sugar-boilers and Banias. A market is held twice a week in the village, and there is a small primary school, as well as a masonry mosque and temple lately erected by the inhabitants. The village lands cover 732 acres, and are well cultivated; the jungle which formerly existed having almost disappeared. The revenue is Rs. 850.

HAIDARABAD *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This pargana forms the north-eastern portion of the tahsil, and lies to the east of the Kathna river, which separates it from Atwa Piparia and Magdapur. It is of irregular shape, bounded on the north by Kukra Mailani, on the east by Paila, and on the south by Paila. In its present form it includes the old pargana of Sikandarabad, which constitutes the south-eastern portion and was incorporated with Haidarabad in 1869. On the whole, the pargana is the best in the tahsil, and only inferior to Kheri of all the parganas of the district. Along the Kathna is a low lying belt of forest, with an average breadth of about two miles; while on the northern border is more forest, which exercises an injurious influence on the crops in its vicinity. In the east is a long sandy ridge, which apparently represents the bed of an old river; but the bulk of the pargana is of a very fine quality. From a narrow strip of somewhat inferior soil in the north the level slowly rises to a firm rich loam, some of which, between Ahmadnagar and Ajan, is the most fertile in the district. To the south the level sinks again, and about the source of the Sarayan the land lies low and in wet years suffers from excessive moisture. The surface is nearly level; there are occasional depressions in which the soil inclines to clay, yielding good crops of rice; but the most notable feature of the pargana is the sugarcane, which is almost unequalled and fetches a considerably higher price than any other in the Shahjahanpur market. There are no very precarious villages; the worst form part of large estates, and only two, Amilia in the extreme north and Bahera in the east, require special attention.

The total area of the pargana is 61,753 acres or 96 square miles. The proportion cultivated is high for this district and the development of the tract has been rapid. At the first regular settlement only 47 per cent. of the land was under the plough; from 1884 to 1895 the average cultivation was no more than this, but in the last year of the period it had risen to over 55 per cent. and since the last settlement progress has been still more marked. In 1904 the cultivated area was no less than 40,558 acres or 65 per cent. and 8,098 acres bore a double crop. The culturable area was 15,809 acres, including 2,101 acres of grove land, and most

of this was jungle and other waste which has not yet been reclaimed. The remaining area of 5,386 acres was classed as barren, but nearly all of this was either under water or occupied by roads and buildings, the actually unculturable land being only 222 acres. The proportion of irrigated land is fairly high, amounting on an average to nearly a third of the cultivation; there are numerous tanks, but wells form the chief source of supply. The latter are mainly unprotected and can be made in most places. Water is generally found near the surface, and the *dhenkli* or lever is the system usually employed. The area occupied by the kharif and rabi harvests is in most years approximately equal. In the former rice largely predominates followed by sugarcane, kodon and pulses; in the rabi wheat and gram occupy almost the entire area sown.

The cultivation is better than in other parts of the tahsil. The chief tenant castes are Kurmis, followed by Ahirs, Brahmans, Pasis and Musalmans. Rents are mainly paid in cash, the average rate at the last settlement being Rs. 4·55 per acre. Very slight differences are observed in the case of the various castes, Kurmis paying Rs. 5 and Brahmans Rs. 4·28, while none pay more and only the few Rajputs less. The revenue demand at the summary settlement was Rs. 30,208, and this was raised to Rs. 36,740 at the regular assessment, although this excludes the demand for several grants which were subsequently resumed. The net expiring revenue was Rs. 41,450, and at the last revision a considerable enhancement was imposed. The final gross revenue is Rs. 53,297, of which Rs. 53,077 constitutes the actually realizable demand. The former represents an addition of 29 per cent. to the old revenue.

The population of the pargana is far more dense than in other parts of the Muhamdi tahsil and has grown rapidly of late years. In 1881 there were 40,761 inhabitants, rising to 47,513 in 1891; while at the last census the pargana contained 55,226 souls, with an average of 575 to the square mile. Classified by religions there were 46,863 Hindus, 8,334 Musalmans and 29 others, chiefly Christians. The most important place in the pargana is Gola; but there are several large villages, such as Haidarabad, Ahmadnagar and Sikandarabad, which have been

separately mentioned, and one or two others, such as Mamri, Alipur and Ajàn, have considerable populations. Means of communication are generally good. The Lucknow, Sitapur and Bareilly Railway traverses the north-east corner, with a station at Gola. Through this place runs the main road from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur, metalled from Gola to Mamri. Branch roads run from Gola to Aliganj in Bhur, to Bhira on the north, and to Khutar in Shahjahanpur, and from Mamri to Piparia and Pawayan on the west, and to Kasta and Sitapur on the south. The southern half of the pargana is served by the direct road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi.

Haidarabad formerly belonged to the great pargana of Bhurwara, long held by the Ahbans and afterwards by the Muhamdi Saiyids and their successors. The Ahbans subsequently recovered much of their possessions, while the other proprietors are of comparatively recent origin. The tract largely owes its prosperity to Mansa Ram, one of the Muhamdi chakladars, who settled here many Kurmis, whose descendants in several cases have preserved their proprietary right. Relics of the Saiyid supremacy are to be seen in the ruined forts at Ahmadnagar, Muhammadabad and elsewhere. In many places are to be seen the curious fluted cupolas which mark the tombs of the Goshains of Gola.

At the present time the pargana contains 108 villages, divided into 192 mahals; of the latter 57 are owned by taluqdars, 71 are held in single and 52 in joint zamindari tenure, eleven in pattidari, while one is bhaiyachara. The chief taluqdars are the Musalman Ahbans of Kotwara and Raipur; the former owns 14 whole villages and two mahals, and the latter 14 villages and one mahal. Mr. Hearsey of Mamri holds five villages and six mahals; five villages belong to the Saiyid Rani of Shahpur, forming the Ahmadnagar estate; three villages and one mahal to the Kurmi taluqdar of Paila; three villages to the Raja of Partabgarh; one village and one mahal to the Rani of Mahewa; and one mahal to the Bais taluqdar of Basaidih in Sitapur. Of the zamindars, Khattris own eight villages, Goshains, Brahmans and Kayasths six each; while 23 are held by Musalmans, chiefly Saiyids and Pathans, and the rest by Kurmis, Rajputs, Banias and others, but their holdings are very small.

ISANAGAR, *Pargana* FIROZABAD, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This village is the headquarters of the taluqa of Thakur Raghuraj Singh of the Jangre clan, the history of whose family has been given in Chapter III. It lies on the road from Dhaurahra to Mallanpur at a distance of about twelve miles from the former, in latitude 27° 54′ N. and longitude 80° 13′ E., on the high bank of the Kauriala which flows some four miles to the east. The village clusters round the old brick fort of the Chauhans, and the whole was in former days surrounded by a bastioned wall. It contained at the last census a population of 3,750 souls, of whom 835 were Musalmans, while Brahmans are the predominant Hindu caste. Isanagar possesses a mud-built police-station, post-office, cattle-pound and a primary school. The place is in a flourishing condition and has largely increased in size of late years, the census of 1869 showing only 2,216 inhabitants. The bazar, in which markets are held twice a week, is of considerable local importance, and the annual sales of cotton fabrics are said to amount to Rs. 8,000. The village is almost surrounded by mango and *jamun* groves, and the enormous area occupied by these trees is a bar to extensive cultivation, combined with the presence of an unusual large proportion of high-caste tenants. The area of the village is 2,032 acres; most of this is good soil, while to the north-east is a stretch of rice land. The revenue is Rs. 1,750, of which Rs. 400 are paid by the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, who acquired 354 acres by purchase, and the rest by the resident taluqdar.

KAFARA, *Pargana* DHAURAHRA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This large village forms part of the Khairigarh estate belonging to Rani Surat Kunwar. It lies in latitude 28° 4′ N. and longitude 81° 3′ E., on the road from Dhaurahra to Nighasan, at a distance of some six miles from the former and 16 miles from the tahsil headquarters. It is built on the high bank of the Sukhni, midway between the Chauka and Kauriala rivers. It is a fine and well-populated village with an area of 4,399 acres, assessed at Rs. 4,400. The soil is in places uneven, but the bulk of it is of a good quality. Beside the main site, there are numerous hamlets, with a total population at the last census of

4,034 persons, of whom 474 were Musalmans, while Kurmis, Chamars and other low caste Hindus constitute the bulk of the remainder. Kafara possesses a cattle-pound, dating from 1892, an upper primary school and a bazar known as Bikramganj, in which markets are held twice a week. To the west of the village site on the edge of a jhil stands the temple of Lilanath Mahadeo, with a masonry tank adjoining it. The place is of great local sanctity and a large fair is held here annually in Baisakh.

KAIMAHRA, *Pargana* KHERI, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

A large village on the western borders of the pargana, in latitude 27° 57′ north and longitude 80° 38′ east, on the road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi and Shahjahanpur, at a distance of about nine miles west from the district headquarters. It lies close to the Phardahan station and is connected with the railway by a small road, which continues south to Kondhi on the road from Lakhimpur to Mitauli and Aurangabad. The river Jamwari forms the western boundary of the village, which is well situated in the midst of mango groves, which swarm with monkeys. Kaimahra is the headquarters of the estate of that name, which is now under the management of the Court of Wards, the owner being Rani Dayawant Kunwar, widow of Raja Narpat Singh, one of the Chauhans. There is a primary school and a cattle-pound here. To the east of the village is a large artificial tank, and there are seven Hindu temples and two mosques. The bazar is of some local importance and a considerable sugar-refining industry is carried on, fourteen factories working at the present time. The population in 1901 numbered 2,118 persons, of whom 444 were Musalmans. The place has grown considerably of late years. The lands of the village cover 1,544 acres, but the cultivated area is comparatively small on account of the extent of the groves to the north and east: on the west of the site there is a good expanse of stiff loam. The revenue of the village is assessed at Rs. 2,118.

KASTA, *Pargana* KASTA, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

The small village which gives its name to the pargana is a decayed place standing in latitude 27° 51′ north and longitude

80° 32′ east, at the junction of the roads from Lakhimpur to Aurangabad and from Gola to Sitapur, some five miles east of Mitauli and 16 miles from the district headquarters. It lies between the Sarayan on the east and its tributary, the Purai, on the west. The population mainly resides in a central site containing some 250 houses, and at the last census numbered 1,878 souls, of whom 393 were Musalmans, while the majority of the remainder are Chamars. It contains an upper primary school and a bazar, in which markets are held twice a week. The village has an area of 1,983 acres, assessed at Rs. 1,600 and held in taluqdari tenure by Raja Ali Muhammad Khan of Mahmudabad in Sitapur. The soil is poor and sandy towards the Sarayan and means of irrigation are deficient; to the west and south there is a good deal of jungle.

KASTA *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This small pargana occupies the south-eastern corner of the tahsil, lying to the south of Haidarabad between the Kathna river on the west, which separates it from Aurangabad, and the Sarayan on the east and north-east, this river forming the tahsil boundary and dividing Kasta from the parganas of Paila and Kheri. To the south lies the Sitapur district. The tract is a poor one, but greatly superior to Aurangabad. In the west along the Kathna is a belt of dense sál forest as far south as Mitauli, and in fact the whole of the tract north of the road from Mitauli to Kasta has been but partially reclaimed. In the north the land lies low, and the water-level is high: there is much poor swampy country, in which wild animals from the neighbouring jungles do great damage to the crops. The southern half is more open, though there are wide tracts of *dhak* jungle. The soil is generally a firm loam except in the depressions where the drainage is deficient; but the subsoil is sandy throughout. One long drainage channel runs through the centre of the pargana from Khamaria southwards, and on the southern border it is joined by another which rises near Abgaon; the two are known further down as the Purai, which joins the Sarayan near Sitapur. In wet years much flooding occurs along their courses. The

Sarayan in the north of the pargana flows near the surface level, but before it leaves the district has cut for itself a fairly deep channel. The villages along the Kathna are more or less precarious physically, but they all belong to wealthy landowners.

The total area of Kasta is 59,440 acres or 92·87 square miles. The cultivated proportion is low, being at the first regular settlement only 46 per cent., although the subsequent development has been considerable. For the twelve years ending with 1895 the average cultivation was 29,218 acres, while in 1904 no less than 33,124 acres or 55 per cent. was under the plough, and 6,151 acres bore a double crop. The culturable area comprised 22,561 acres including 1,393 acres of grove land; this a very high proportion, but most of it consists of jungle which has never been cleared. The remaining 3,749 acres were classed as barren, but the culturable area was only 154 acres, the rest being under water or occupied by roads and buildings. The irrigated area is always rather small: wells form the chief source of supply, and in the north they are worked with levers, while further south they are deeper and more durable. The areas sown in the rabi and kharif harvests are approximately equal. In the former the chief staples are gram, wheat and barley, and in the latter rice, followed by pulses and sugarcane. The last is extensively grown and is the most valuable staple of the pargana.

The holdings are large and the cultivation generally backward; except in the Kurmi villages in the south, rents are mainly paid in kind and only the better soils are held at cash rates. The latter averaged Rs. 5·99 at the last settlement, with Rs. 6·31 for low caste and Rs. 5·18 for high caste tenants. Kurmis, who are the most numerous, paid Rs. 6·75, while next come Brahmans with Rs. 5·38. The jungle tracts of the north are mainly inhabited by Ahirs, Gaddis and inferior cultivators. The revenue at the summary assessment was Rs. 22,401, but at the regular settlement it was raised to Rs. 37,306. The present final demand is Rs. 49,225 gross and Rs. 49,185 net, the difference being the nominal assessment on revenue-free land. The enhancement on the former assessment amounts to 28 per cent.

The population is sparse, owing to the large amount of forest land still unoccupied. In 1881 the total was 31,671, rising to

36,028 at the following census. In 1901 the pargana contained 36,794 inhabitants, with an average density of 395 persons to the square mile. Classified according to religions there were 33,778 Hindus, 3,013 Musalmans and three Sikhs. The only place of any size in the pargana is Mitauli, a former stronghold of the Ahbans. Kasta is a village of no importance, and so is Abgaon, which once gave its name to a separate pargana. Means of communication are provided by two roads, one leading from Sitapur to Kasta and Gola, and the other running from Lakhimpur through Kasta and Mitauli to Aurangabad.

Up to the mutiny the whole pargana was held by Raja Lone Singh of Mitauli, but was afterwards confiscated and bestowed on several grantees, mainly Europeans who afterwards sold it. There are now altogether 73 villages, divided into 77 mahals, including five jungle grants, and of these all save nine are owned by taluqdars, one is held in single and three in joint zamindari, and the rest in pattidari tenure. No fewer than 64 whole villages and one mahal are the property of the Khanzada Raja of Mahmudabad in Sitapur; Daranagar and one mahal belong to the Khattri taluqdar of Muiz-ud-dinpur, and one mahal of Udaipur to the Bais taluqdar of Kanhmau, also in the Sitapur district. The others are owned by Brahmans, Kayasths, Khattris, Panwars and Sombansis.

KHAIRIGARH, *Pargana* KHAIRIGARH, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

The place which gives its name to the pargana is a village of little importance, lying in latitude 28° 21′ north and longitude 80° 51′ east, on the left bank of the Sarju river, at a distance of five miles north-west of Singahi, with which it is connected by a poor road, and eleven miles from Nighasan. Another road leads south-west, crossing the Sarju by a ferry, and thence by way of Bahmanpur and Dariabad to Lakhimpur. To the west and north of the village lies the reserved forest. The village lands are 1,492 acres in extent, the southern portion being *tarai*, and the rest a high-lying stretch of light soil in which fair crops of maize are grown. The revenue is Rs. 425 and the proprietor is the Rani of Khairigarh, who resides at Singahi. The

village had a population of 1,361 persons at the last census, including 341 Musalmans and a number of Kahars.

The place chiefly derives its interest from the old fort, known as Qila Ghori Shah, whose ruins stand some three miles off to the west. This stronghold, which tradition assigns to Shahab-ud-din Ghori, was probably built by Firoz Shah, and in Akbar's day was considered one of the best in Hindostan. The structure was of burnt brick on foundations of huge kankar blocks, but little now remains visible. Outside the fort, lying about in the jungle, are fragments of ancient Hindu sculptures, and similar carved stones have been used in the construction of the shrine of Pir Saadat Ali, a saint in whose honour a fair is held annually in March. On the site of the fort is a forest bungalow. About two miles north-west of the fort there stood till 1885, when it was removed to the Lucknow museum, a life-size stone figure of a horse of rude workmanship, with a fragmentary inscription of Samudra Gupta incised on the neck. It was probably used for sacrificial purposes, but nothing else is known of its history, save that it points to an earlier civilization in Khairigarh than that of the Musalmans.

KHAIRIGARH *Pargana, Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This large pargana occupies the northern portion of the district between the Sarju river on the south and the Mohan on the north. To the east the boundary is the Kauriala river, which like the Mohan separates the pargana from Nepal territory. On the west beyond the Sarju lies pargana Palia, while above this the boundary marches with Nepal. Khairigarh is the largest pargana of the district and has an area of 425 square miles. Of this nearly two-thirds are occupied by Government forest, which extends south as far as Khairigarh. The remaining portion of the pargana consists of stretches of open country between the Sarju to the south, the Mohan to the north and the Kauriala to the east. Along all these rivers there is a broad fringe of jungle, while the open central block is divided by a small stream called the Jauraha *nala*, which brings down the drainage from the forest. North of this *nala* is a fairly even tract of good productive land known as the Kunawat. To the south the land lies higher,

except in the Sarju *tarai*, and the soil is not so stiff. Along the Kauriala there is an usual alluvial loam, while the soil of the jungle clearings is for the most part poor and gritty. There is practically no irrigation in the pargana. The banks of the Mohan river are precipitous and their height renders it impossible to use the water for the fields. The old bank of the Sarju is also about 30 feet above the level of the river. The tract known as Haveli, in the neighbourhood of Singahi, south of the Jauraha, is perhaps the best part of the pargana and the cultivation is better here than elsewhere. Generally, however, it is careless in the extreme, as the tenants pay more attention to grazing than to agriculture, and over one-third is tilled by non-residents. The holdings, too, are very large, averaging 7·6 acres—a higher figure than in any other part of the district. All the villages along the Kauriala and Sarju are liable to flooding and are consequently precarious. Many others come under the same category by reason of their proximity to the forest, which not only renders them very unhealthy, but also exposes them to the ravages of innumerable wild animals. All belong, however, to one large estate, and therefore require no particular attention.

The area which lies outside the reserved forests is 117,853 acres or 184 square miles. The proportion cultivated has at all times been low; at the first regular settlement it amounted to 36 per cent., and the subsequent increase has been but small. In 1904 the area under the plough was 46,857 acres or 39 per cent. As much as 59,636 acres were returned as culturable, including 933 acres of grove land; there is a considerable amount of fallow, resulting from the fluctuating nature of the cultivation, but most of such land is forest or open waste, which has never been reclaimed. The barren area was 11,360 acres, but only 56 acres are classed as absolutely unculturable, the rest being either under water or taken up by sites and roads. The kharif is by far the more important harvest, covering nearly double the area sown in the rabi, while some 25 per cent. of the cultivation bears a double crop. Rice is the chief staple, and fine crops of *jarhan* are raised in the Kunawat; there is a large area of maize in the Haveli, and *kodon* is the only other kharif crop grown to any extent. In the rabi barley and wheat hold an almost equal

position, the rest of the harvest being taken up by gram and peas.

The chief cultivating castes are Ahirs, Kurmis, Gadariyas and Tharus. The last are chiefly found in the forest tract, where they alone can endure the deadly climate; they are, however, very independent, and on the least provocation migrate to Nepal. Rents are almost wholly paid in cash, and run very low. At the last settlement the general average was Re. 1·9 per acre, and very little privilege is accorded to the higher castes. Muraos paid Rs. 2·5 and Kurmis Rs. 2·3; but the average rate in all other cases was approximately equal. The revenue demand at the summary assessment was Rs. 17,386, and this was raised to Rs. 23,439 at the regular settlement. At the last revision a considerable enhancement was taken, the final demand being Rs. 31,430, or 35 per cent. more than the old revenue.

The population of the pargana at the census of 1881 numbered 39,444 souls, and has remained practically stationary ever since. In 1891 the total had fallen to 39,364; but ten years later had risen again to 39,747 persons, of whom 20,836 were males and 18,911 females. Classified by religions, there were 33,886 Hindus, 5,842 Musalmans, chiefly of the Banjara caste, and 19 others, Christians and Aryas. The only place of any size in the pargana is Singahi, which is separately described, as also are the large agricultural villages of Singha Kalan and Banbirpur, and the pargana capital, a place of some antiquity, but now a mere village. Means of communication are naturally very poor. Through the forest runs the branch railway from Mailani to the timber depôts of Dudhwa, Sonaripur, and Chandan Chauki; but is only open for a few months in the year. A road runs from Nighasan to Singahi and Banbirpur, whence two branches lead to the Halauna and Kakraula ferries over the Mohan and so to Nepal territory. The Jauraha is bridged at Motipur, two miles from Singahi. Another road runs from Singahi to Khairigarh and from there to the Sirsi ferry on the Chauka and Lakhimpur. The forests contain a number of fair departmental roads, but these are not all available for ordinary traffic.

The pargana, excluding the forest, contains 60 villages, all of which are owned by the Surajbansi Rani of Khairigarh, who

resides at Singahi. Three villages are subsettled with the descendants of the former proprietors.

The name is said to be derived from the *khair* jungle, which existed here in great quantities. The pargana formerly extended beyond the Kauriala and included, besides Haveli and Kunawat, the tracts on either side of the Jauraha stream, the following townships: Bardia, which included most of the present Government forest, Manjhra, east of Haveli, Dharmanpur and Bharthapur, across the Kauriala and now belonging partly to Nepal and partly to the Bahraich district. The two last were given to Dhaurahra in 1817, and subsequently handed over to the Nepal Government.

The early history of the pargana is lost in obscurity. It has been for many centuries, and probably at all times, the same huge forest that it now appears. The great fort of Khairigarh has been ascribed to the work of several monarchs, from Shahab-ud-din Ghori to Firoz Shah. In the Ain-i-Akbari it is described as one of the best forts in India, and there it is further stated that there were five other brick-built forts in the pargana, erected to form a defence to the empire against the wild tribes of the north. At that time the pargana was held by Bachhils, Bisens, Bais and Kurmis. The Bachhils were of course the same as those who held Kamp and Barwar, while the Bisens were the conquerors of the Dhaurahra Pasis. Reference is made to a rising in Kundanpur near Khairigarh during the reign of Akbar by one Ahbaran, an Ahir, and an expedition was sent against him.

At a later date, probably in the reign of Jahangir, Khairigarh was seized by the Banjaras, who, it is said, had accompanied the Jangres in their victorious campaign against the Bachhils. They held the tract for a long period. About the beginning of the nineteenth century their leader was Rao Ram Singh, a notorious freebooter who imposed dues even on his own clansmen, whenever they crossed into his dominions. Civil war ensued and Ram Singh was defeated in a pitched battle by Sangha Naik. In 1801 Khairigarh was ceded to the British, and in 1809 Ram Singh had to be reduced, as he was still carrying on his old practices and had extended his operations to Mundiaghat in Pilibhit. He was then taken to Bareilly, where he died.

For four years the pargana was held on lease by Captain Hearsey, who resided here till the outbreak of war with Nepal. In 1816 Khairigarh was restored to Oudh, and the Banjara leaders, Naik Madho Singh and Gandu Singh, resumed their old position. Then came the Surajbansis, whose history has been given in the preceding chapters. In 1821 Raja Ganga Sah acquired Kanchanpur, and in 1830 he attacked and defeated the Banjaras. The latter laid their case before the Oudh Government, and in 1841 recovered their lands for a short time. The chakladar's troops, however, could not stand the climate and after a miserable sojourn at Newalkhar, the few survivors retired, leaving the hillmen in possession. The Banjaras thenceforth disappeared, and the proprietary right of the Surajbansis was established both in 1856 and after the mutiny.

KHAROHIA, *Pargana* DHAURHRA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This village lies in latitude 27° 59′ north and longitude 81° 3′ east, on the north side of the road from Lakhimpur to Dhaurahra, at a distance of three miles west of the latter. The village lands are extensive; they lie on both sides of the road and stretch westwards to the Chauka. It covers 2,700 acres, and the greater portion consists of loam soil with a large rice basin. The population in 1901 numbered 2,199 souls, of whom a small proportion are Musalmans. Lodhs are the prevailing Hindu caste. There are many small hamlets, but the bulk of the inhabitants reside in the central site. The village is assessed at Rs. 1,750, and forms part of the estate of Rani Surat Kunwar of Khairigarh.

KHERI, *Pargana* KHERI, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

The place which gives its name to the pargana and the district is a small town of little importance, lying three miles south of the headquarters at Lakhimpur, in latitude 27° 54′ north and longitude 80° 48′ east, on the unmetalled road from Lakhimpur to Bahramghat. Close to the town on the west runs the Lucknow, Sitapur and Bareilly State Railway, with a station about half a mile distant from the main site. The population of Kheri in 1881 numbered 5,996 souls; the subsequent increase has been but small, for in 1901 there were 6,223 inhabitants, of whom 2,414

were Hindus, 3,800 Musalmans, chiefly Julahas and Qassabs, and nine of other religions. Kheri possesses a post-office, a middle vernacular school and an opium godown. Markets are held daily, but those on Wednesday and Saturday are the most important. The chief manufactures of the place are fireworks and *tazias.* There are in the town numbers of temples, imambaras and mosques, one of which is said to have been built by Aurangzeb. A small fair is held annually on the Ramlila festival. The place is of considerable antiquity, but its history is almost unknown. At one time it was held by the Saiyids of Barwar, one of whom, Saiyid Khurd, was buried here; his tomb is the finest building in the place, being constructed of huge blocks of kankar; it bears an inscription with the date 970 A.H. With the fall of the Saiyids the place came into the hands of the Janwar Chaudhris, whose Chauhan successors hold almost the whole pargana.

Kheri has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since February, 1876. In 1903 there were 1,102 houses in the town, of which 503 were assessed to taxation. The income from the house-tax was Rs. 557, giving an incidence of Re. 1-1-9 per assessed house and Re. 0-1-5 per head of population. The total receipts, including a balance of Rs. 407 from the preceding year, were Rs. 1,023. The expenditure was Rs. 849, and was devoted to the usual heads: police, Rs. 342; conservancy, Rs. 144, and local improvements, Rs. 300. The remainder went for the cost of collection and other minor charges.

KHERI *Pargana, Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This large pargana is the best in the district and consists of the eastern portion of the tract lying between the Ul river on the north and the Sitapur district on the south. To the west lie Paila and Kasta, and to the north and east Srinagar, a large portion of which was formerly included in Kheri. Besides the Ul there are several other rivers. The chief of these is the Sarayan, which flows along the Kasta border, and is joined by the Jamwari stream which rises in Paila and separates from the rest of the pargana the old mahal of Basara, which was united to Kheri in 1869. In the east is the Kewani, which has its source in a string of jhils in the centre of the pargana and thence flows south-east

into the Sitapur district. The bulk of the pargana is a high-lying plateau with a good light loam soil, requiring little irrigation and producing excellent crops. Towards the Ul the land rises slightly and the soil is lighter, till the level suddenly drops into the *tarai*, which is of a very poor character. There is another stretch of *tarai*, but of a far superior character, along the Kewani, separated from the lowlands of the Ul by a promontory of high land running south-east from the main plateau. The level of the uplands is only broken by the depressions in which the Kewani originates. The chief of these jhils are at Gumchini, Dhusru, Mahmudabad and Keshopur. Occasionally the overflow from these lakes spreads over a considerable area, but in ordinary years they are very valuable for irrigation purposes and contribute largely to the prosperity of the pargana. The level sinks slightly towards the west, and in the neighbourhood of the streams the soil is often poor and broken. The precarious villages are few in number and all of them, with the exception of Bilwa on the Jamwari, belong to large estates.

The standard of cultivation is generally higher than in the rest of the district and the proportion of the land cultivated has at all times been large. The total area of the pargana is 121,412 acres or 189 square miles. At the first regular settlement as much as 62 per cent. of this was cultivated, a very much higher proportion than in any other part of the district. During the currency of the settlement there was a slight increase, but the development has been much more rapid since the last assessment. In 1904 the area under the plough was 87,607 acres or over 71 per cent., while 18,328 acres bore a double crop. The proportion of culturable land is low for this district, the total being 21,518 acres; this, however, includes 6,455 acres under groves, and the bulk of the remainder consists of fallow. Of the barren area, which amounts to 12,287 acres in all, more than half is occupied by roads and buildings, and all the rest save 680 acres of unculturable land is under water. Means of irrigation are fairly plentiful, as the tanks are extensively used and earthen wells can be made in most places, except near the top of the high bank where the subsoil is too sandy. The kharif harvest covers a much larger area than the rabi, the chief staples being rice, sugarcane, kodon and the

pulses. In the rabi wheat and gram take the lead, while a large amount of barley is raised in the lighter soils.

Of the different castes of cultivators Kurmis are by far the most numerous, amounting to about one-third of the whole tenant population. Next to them come Brahmans, Chamars, Pasis, Musalmans and Ahirs. Rents are mainly paid in cash, and at the last settlement the average rate was Rs. 4·95 per acre, ranging from Rs. 6·91 in the case of Muraos and Rs. 4·4 for high caste tenants generally. Kurmis paid on an average rate of Rs. 5·8. The revenue of the pargana at the summary settlement was Rs. 79,424 and at the regular assessment it was raised to Rs. 1,21,037. The present final demand stands at Rs. 1,51,609, representing an enhancement of 19 per cent. The net sum payable is Rs. 1,48,563, the difference being the nominal demand for revenue-free lands, which cover 347 acres.

The population of the pargana in 1881 numbered 107,668 souls, and at the following census rose to 118,394. In 1901 the tract contained 124,040 inhabitants, of whom 23,151 were Musalmans. The average density was 652 to the square mile, which is much greater than in other parts of the district. Besides the towns of Lakhimpur and Kheri, there are several large villages, the most important of which are Oel and Kaimahra, the headquarters of two great taluqas. Means of communication are distinctly good. The railway runs through the pargana and has four stations, at Oel, Kheri, Lakhimpur and Phardahan. Good roads lead from Lakhimpur in every direction and the cross roads from Kheri and Oel give easy access to all parts. Lakhimpur is the chief market and the only industrial centre, with the possible exception of Amirtaganj in the extreme east, where there is a large settlement of weavers, and Oel, where the manufacture of brass vessels is carried on.

In early days Kheri was held by the Bisens, who were probably connected with the great Manjhauli family who owned Dhaurahra during the 17th and 18th centuries. It afterwards was included in the vast possession of the Saiyids of Barwar, and after their fall the Chauhans gradually rose to power, although they were for a long time checked by the spreading dominion of the Gaurs in the north of Sitapur. Since 1780, when the Chauhans

obtained a large number of villages on lease, the history of the pargana has been practically identical with that of the three families of Oel, Kaimahra and Mahewa, which has been already given in the preceding chapters. At the present time the pargana contains 194 villages, of which no less than 173 are owned by Chauhans, while eleven are held by Kayasths, five by Brahmans, two by Sheikhs, one each by Saiyids and Khattris, and one by Government. The villages are divided into 271 mahals, of which 169 are held in taluqdari, 50 single and 40 in joint zamindari, nine in pattidari, and three in bhaiyachara tenure. The Raja of Oel owns 74 villages and ten mahals; the Raja of Mahewa 40 villages and six mahals; and the Rani of Kaimahra 34 villages and five mahals. The Saiyids of Kheri, who are descended from Saiyid Khurd, an immigrant from Arabia, who held 22 villages in *jagir* and died in 1563, being buried at Kheri, now own but a single village, though they have subordinate rights in several others. The Kayasths are the descendants of the old pargana qanungos.

KUKRA, *Pargana* KUKRA MAILANI, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This village, which with Mailani gives its name to a pargana, lies in latitude 28° 12′ north and longitude 80° 27′ east, at the junction of the roads from Gola to Bhira and from Lakhimpur to Pilibhit, at a distance of eight miles from Gola and ten miles south-east of Mailani. The railway station lies three miles to the south-west of the village, in the middle of the jungle. The population of Kukra at the last census was 1,395 persons, more than half of whom are Musalmans. The village lands, which border on the forest to the north-east and north-west, cover 2,629 acres, and consist for the most part of lowlying rice fields, which bear good crops in favourable years. They are held in zamindari tenure by some of the Musalman Ahbans and are assessed at Rs. 950. There is a small aided school here and a bazar in which markets are held twice weekly. The post-office is at the railway station.

Kukra was for centuries held by the Musalman Ahbans. During the first half of the nineteenth century the owner was Ali Bakhsh Khan, who built here a small brick fort. At the gate of the family burying-ground there is a flat tomb, that of Ali

Bakhsh Khan's father, who killed his brother in order to gain the estate, and who was buried in this place, so that all might show their horror for the crime by trampling on his grave. Ali Bakhsh Khan himself murdered four surveyors who had been sent by the chakladar to measure the village lands: his property was confiscated and he himself was outlawed and afterwards murdered. The estate was then mortgaged to Raja Lone Singh of Mitauli, who built a fort here and is said to have buried three elephant-loads of gold mohars here after the capture of Mitauli in 1858. The town and surrounding villages belong to the Ahban family, now represented by Abdul Ghani and Abdur Rahman Khan.

KUKRA MAILANI *Pargana, Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This is the westernmost pargana of the tahsil, lying to the west of the Ul river, which separates it from Bhur, and extending to the Kathna, which in the north separates this district from Shahjahanpur and in the south forms the boundary of the Atwa Piparia pargana of the Muhamdi tahsil. To the south lie the parganas of Haidarabad and Paila. The bulk of the pargana consists of forests in the shape of large grants held by private zamindars and also the reserved forests of the Bhira range. The whole of the north of the pargana comes under this description, with the exception of a small clearing round Mailani. Forests also extend down both flanks, along the Kathna on the west and the Ul on the east. A thick belt of forest, too, runs down the centre, on the slope separating the highlands on the west from the low basin round Kukra, and then takes a turn to the south-east, joins the forests on the Ul, thus completely enveloping the Kukra tract. The cultivated portion of the pargana, with the exception of the small area round Mailani, consists of two blocks. One of these is made up of 25 villages round Sansarpur in the south, in which the land lies high, the soil being a consistent loam similar to that of Haidarabad, though somewhat inferior in quality. The other is the lowlying portion round Kukra, a very damp tract in which trees will not grow and in wet seasons liable to waterlogging. It consists of a series of depressions in which the soil is chiefly clay, divided by ridges of higher and inferior land. It was actually at one time a lake, but

the water was drawn away into the Barauncha, one of the branches of the Ul. Round Mailani and in the forest grants the soil is a mean between that of the two southern circles, but in many places it is very poor and gritty. The whole of the pargana is of a most precarious nature, owing to its exposure in all parts to the ravages of wild animals, except in the case of some of the Sansarpur villages. The land is mostly held by wealthy grantees, and consequently only the detached village of Khareta to the north of Sansarpur requires especial attention.

Shortly after the mutiny a large proportion of the forests, amounting to 126 square miles, was made over to various persons under the waste land rules; but as they all failed to comply with the conditions of the grant the land was resumed and transferred to the Forest Department. Excluding the reserved portion, the area of the pargana in 1904 amounted to 66,796 acres or 104 square miles, the total area being about 177 square miles. The cultivated area has at all times been small and the standard of husbandry is very low, except in a few of the Sansarpur villages. The holdings are everywhere large, and much of the land is in the hands of non-resident tenants, as by reason of the general unhealthiness of the tract it is very difficult to secure cultivators. At the first regular settlement 30 per cent. of the land was under the plough; but this was exclusive of the grant villages which were afterwards resumed. At the last settlement a considerable decline was observed and for the 15 years ending in 1900 the average cultivation was only 17,350 acres or 26 per cent. By 1904 the pargana had recovered from the period of depression and as much as 22,446 acres or over 33 per cent. was under the plough. Of the remainder, 40,412 acres were classed as culturable and 3,938 acres as barren. The former included 376 acres under groves and 5,657 acres of fallow, the rest being mainly forest land. Of the barren area, only 148 acres were classed as actually unculturable, most of the area coming under this description being occupied by sites and roads or covered by water. The kharif harvest usually covers a slightly larger area than the rabi, and about 20 per cent. bears a crop. The chief staples are rice, sugarcane and the pulses in the kharif, and wheat and gram in the rabi. The bulk of the rice cultivation lies in the Kukra tract, while wheat and sugarcane

are the main products of the Sansarpur circle, in which there are many Kurmis. There is very little irrigation, as none is needed except in the higher villages, where unprotected wells can be made without difficulty.

The chief cultivating castes are Kurmis, Ahirs, Pasis, Brahmans and Musalmans. The bulk of the land is held on grain rents and money payments are only taken in the case of the better soils. The average cash rate at the last settlement was Rs. 3·7 per acre, and practically no difference was observed in the case of various castes, the rate for Brahmans being equivalent to the general average and that for Kurmis slightly higher. The revenue demand at the summary settlement was Rs. 8,713 and at the regular assessment this was raised to Rs. 9,432. The present final demand represents a large enhancement, as the total stands at Rs. 23,487, or 123 per cent. more than the old revenue, the result of the recent development of this tract.

The population of the pargana at the census of 1881 was 14,641, rising to 21,747 at the following census. At the last enumeration of 1901 the pargana contained 23,037 inhabitants, of whom 20,029 were Hindus, 2,977 Musalmans and 31 Christians and others. The only places of any size or importance are Kukra, Sansarpur and Mailani. Means of communication are fair, as the pargana is traversed by the railway, on which there are stations at Kukra and Mailani; from the latter place a branch line leads to Bhira and Sonaripur, and a steam tramway runs south-west to Pawayan. Through Kukra and Mailani runs the road from Lakhimpur to Pilibhit; this is crossed by a similar road from Gola to Bhira and Paila, while the southern portion of the pargana is traversed by the road from Gola to Khutar. All these roads are very difficult during the rains, when the railway provides practically the sole means of communication with the outer world.

In former days the pargana was included in Bhurwara and was held by the Ahbans. The jungles of this tract have been for centuries the refuge of dacoits and rebels from Oudh and Rohilkhand, and both the Ahbans and the Katehriya chieftains of Khutar, when pressed by Government authorities, used to retire to the impenetrable forests and thence harry their neighbours. Such action on the part of the Katehriyas resulted in the forfeiture

of their estates in 1840. The Ahbans lost their property at annexation, but in many cases they subsequently recovered their villages after long and costly litigation. In one instance they attempted other means. The village of Roshannagar in the extreme south had been purchased by a Musalman who was admitted as proprietor in 1856; the Ahbans on the outbreak of the mutiny rose and killed the new owner and his followers, thereby destroying any rights they might subsequently have proved. A large portion of the pargana had been acquired by Raja Lone Singh of Mitauli, who obtained the lease of the estate held by Ali Bakhsh Khan, whose property had been seized on account of the murder of four government officials who had been sent to measure the lands of Kukra. This estate was confiscated with the rest of the Mitauli taluqa and was afterwards distributed among several grantees. The pargana now contains 51 villages, divided into 56 mahals; of the latter 15 are held by taluqdars, two by Government, 34 in single and four in joint zamindari, .and the remaining one in pattidari tenure. There is no resident taluqdar; the Rani of Mahewa owns ten villages and one mahal, assessed at Rs. 6,635; the Raja of Oel two villages, Mailani and another; the Saiyid Rani of Shahpur has the single village of Narsinghpur; and Mr. L. D. Hearsey of Mamri one mahal. Ten other villages belong to Europeans, four being held by Messrs. Carew & Co. of Rosa. The largest zamindars are the Musalman Ahbans of Kukra, who own 13 villages. Sikhs, Brahmans, Goshains and others have small holdings, in no case of any importance.

LAKHIMPUR, *Pargana* KHERI, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

The town of Lakhimpur, which contains the district headquarters, stands in latitude 27° 57′ north and longitude 80° 47′ east, in a picturesque situation on the high south bank of the Ul river. On the south-west of the town is the station on the Lucknow, Sitapur and Bareilly State Railway, 28 miles by rail from Sitapur and 50 miles from Pilibhit. To the east and south-east is the civil station, which was laid out in 1860, and contains the bungalows of the European officials and residents, the court-houses, church and gardens. The town itself is compactly built and lies between the civil lines and the road to Nighasan. It contains four

bazars, the first of which was built in 1860 by Major Thurburn, then Deputy Commissioner, and called after his name, the money being raised by public subscription. The other bazars are also called after district officers, having been erected during the administration of Colonels Murray, Cowie, and Harrison. Daily markets are held, but those on Sunday and Thursday in each week are the most important. A large export trade is carried on in sugar and grain, and the sales in European and native fabrics are estimated to amount to over a lakh of rupees annually. The town has grown rapidly since its selection as the district head-quarters. In 1869 it had a population of only 1,654 persons; in 1881 the total had risen to 7,526, and ten years later to 8,023. At the last census there were 10,110 inhabitants, excluding 1,154 who resided within the town lands, but outside municipal limits. Hindus numbered 6,932, Musalmans 3,013, Christians 99, while the remaining 66 were composed of Aryas, Jains and Sikhs.

The public buildings of Lakhimpur comprise the district courts and offices, the jail, tahsil, police-station, post-office, dispensary, the high school, and masonry *sarai* constructed by the orders of Government in 1860. The other schools include the Dharam Sabha, an anglo-vernacular institution, and two primary schools for boys and girls aided by the municipality. There is a well-known temple of Sankata Debi, in whose honour a large assemblage takes place annually in Asarh, at which considerable trade is carried on. The place stands high and is generally very healthy, epidemic diseases being uncommon.

Besides the railway, there are numerous means of communication with the outside world, but the roads are only metalled within the limits of the town and for a short distance in its neighbourhood. Roads run from Lakhimpur to Nighasan on the north, with branches to Khairigarh and Dhaurahra; to Mailani and Pilibhit on the north-west; to Muhamdi on the west, the main road going parallel with the railway to Gola, and the shorter but inferior route running direct through Kaimahra; to Mitauli and Aurangabad on the south-west; to Oel and Sitapur on the south; and to Bahramghat and Bahraich on the south-east.

Lakhimpur has been administered as a municipality since 1868. The income, which was formerly derived from octroi, has been for many years obtained from a house-tax, supplemented by rents, bazar dues and other sources. The municipality is in a flourishing condition with a large balance. Details of income and expenditure since 1891 will be found in the appendix.*

LAKHIMPUR *Tahsil*.

This tahsil is the central subdivision of the district, lying to the south and west of the Chauka river which separates it from Nighasan. To the west is the Shahjahanpur district and the Muhamdi tahsil, and to the south lies Sitapur. The tahsil is made up of the parganas of Kheri, Paila and Kukra Mailani to the south of the Ul, and of Bhur and Srinagar between that river and the Chauka. All of these have been separately described in detail with an account of their physical characteristics, agriculture, revenue and landed proprietors. The area of the tahsil in 1904 was 589,333 acres or somewhat over 920 square miles. This, however, excludes the large expanse of reserved forest in Kukra Mailani and the north-west of Bhur, which is known as the Bhira range and covers 49,924 acres or 148 square miles, so that the total area of the tahsil is about 1,069 square miles, being after Nighasan about the largest in Oudh.

The remaining portion is of very varying quality. All Kukra Mailani, except a small portion in the south-west, the greater part of Bhur, and Srinagar lie low and are subject to the influence of the Chauka and its many tributaries. The southern parts of Bhur and Srinagar are higher and contain much stable cultivation. South of the Ul is the best land of the district, especially in pargana Kheri; the soil is a level loam of good quality, tilled by a good stamp of cultivators. In places there are some marked depressions, notably in the north of Paila and the centre of Kheri, but the precarious areas in these parganas are very small.

The forest tract is administered under departmental agency, while the rest forms a revenue and criminal sub-division in the charge of a full-powered officer on the district staff. The

* Appendix, Table XVI.

residence of the tahsildar is at Lakhimpur. The honorary magistrates at the present time are Rajendra Bahadur Singh, who has third-class powers within the limits of the Lakhimpur municipality and police-circle, and Muhammad Khalil-ullah Khan in the Bhira and Gola thanas. For civil purposes the tahsil is under the jurisdiction of the subordinate judge, and Muhammad Khalil-ullah Khan is also an honorary munsif for pargana Bhur. For the purposes of police administration there are stations at Lakhimpur, Nimgaon, Phulbihar and Bhira, while the whole of Kukra Mailani and portions of Bhur and Paila are included in the Gola circle. A few villages of Paila also belong to Mitauli in the Muhamdi tahsil.

Besides the headquarters town of Lakhimpur and the small town of Kheri, there are but few places of any size or importance in the tahsil. The pargana capitals and the police-stations, as well as some of the larger villages such as Oel, Baragaon, Aliganj, Kaimahra and a few others, have been separately mentioned, but they are merely agricultural places of little interest. The lists of schools, markets, fairs and post-offices will be found in the appendix.

Means of communication are generally good in the parganas south of the Ul, but elsewhere are of a very inferior description except during the dry portion of the year. The Lucknow-Sitapur and Bareilly State Railway traverses Kheri, Paila and Kukra and has stations at Oel, Kheri, Lakhimpur, Phardahan, Gola, Kukra and Mailani. From the last a branch line takes off to the north-east leading to Bhira, Palia and Sonaripur, while south-west runs the steam tramway to Pawayan in Shahjahanpur. With the exception of a few miles in the neighbourhood of headquarters none of the roads are metalled. The most important are those leading from Lakhimpur to Bahraich, Sitapur, Aurangabad, Muhamdi, Gola, Pilibhit, Khairigarh, Nighasan and Dhaurahra. The various cross roads and branches are shown in the map and have been mentioned in the several pargana articles. The Ul and Chauka are crossed by a number of ferries, mainly under the control of the district board, and a list of these, both public and private, will be found in the appendix.

The tahsil has undergone considerable alterations since annexation. Up to 1869 the Lakhimpur or Huzur tahsil comprised the parganas of Kheri, Srinagar, Khairígarh, Dhaurahra, Firozabad and Paila. In that year a reconstitution of the whole district took place. The two parganas of Bhur and Aliganj were made into one, Karanpur was added to Paila, and Basara to Kheri. The Gola tahsil was abolished and that of Nighasan constituted for the first time. The population of the present tahsil at the first Oudh census of 1869 was 329,834; but this includes the figures for Nighasan, which at that time had not been separated from Bhur. In 1881 the total number of inhabitants was 330,707, and this rose at the following census to 365,622. During the ensuing ten years the increase was extremely small, as in 1901 the total population was 366,026, of whom 193,609 were males, showing an actual decrease of 536, and 172,417 females, or 940 more than at the previous enumeration. Classified according to religions, there were 312,409 Hindus, 53,289 Musalmans, 212 Christians, 89 Aryas, 18 Sikhs and nine Jains. Of the various Hindu castes Kurmis occupy the foremost place numerically, being 49,734 persons in all, while next to them come Chamars with 48,749, and Pasis with 35,554. Other castes with over 20,000 representatives were Brahmans and Ahirs, while those with more than 10,000 were Muraos, Kahars, Lodhs and Rajputs. The last numbered 11,174 souls; they are drawn from a great variety of clans, the most numerous being Chauhans, Rathors, Bais, Bhadaurias, Sombansis and Tomars. Other strong castes are Gadariyas, Telis, Dhobis, Koris, Lunias, Banias, Bharbhunjas and Nais. Of the Musalmans the Julahas are far the most numerous, having 12,533 representatives. After them come converted Rajputs, mainly of the Chauhan, Janwar and Katehriya clans, Pathans, Behnas, Sheikhs, Nais, Darzis and Gaddis.

The tahsil is almost wholly agricultural in character, and according to the census returns nearly 72 per cent. were directly dependent on the land, although this is a somewhat lower proportion than in the other sub-divisions of the district. A considerable percentage of the remaining population is, however, either indirectly connected with agriculture or resort to cultivation as a

subsidiary means of support. The chief industries are, as usual, the supply of articles of food and drink, while next come the manufacture and sale of cotton fabrics, which is somewhat extensively practised in the villages of the Kheri pargana. There are also large numbers of cattle-breeders and graziers and of workers in wood and other forest produce. Further, owing to the presence of the district headquarters, the commercial and professional populations are much better represented than in the other parts of the district.

LODHAURI, *Pargana and Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A village on the road from Nighasan to Palia, in latitude 28° 15′ north and longitude 80° 50′ east, some two miles west of Nighasan. It is the largest village in the pargana, having an area of 10,253 acres and stretching from the river Sarju on the north-east to the Ghaghi *nala* which bounds it on the west. Beyond the Palia road there is a high-lying tract with good maize cultivation, but to the south of this the land lies low, being cut up by numerous *nalas* and covered with stretches of uncultivated jungle. The revenue is Rs. 4,800 and is paid by Raj Raghubar Singh, one of the Jangres, the place being formerly one of the headquarters of the Bhur taluqa. Lodhauri contained at the last census a population of 3,711 persons, the bulk of whom are Muraos. There is a small aided school here, but nothing else of any importance.

MAGDAPUR, *Pargana* MAGDAPUR, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

The capital of the pargana is a small village lying in latitude 27° 54′ north and longitude 80° 20′ east, on the unmetalled road from Aurangabad to Padaria on the road from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur. It was probably selected as the capital on account of its central situation, for it has no other claim to importance. Tradition states that it was founded by one Tula, a Gadariya, some 300 years ago on the ruins of an ancient village of Magdapur. There was a small fort here in Nawabi days, but all that remains are a mound and grove which are nazul property. Three miles to the west flows the river Gumti, and to the east are the jungles along the Kathna. The population at the last census numbered

708 souls, mainly Ahirs and other agriculturists, with a few Banias. There is a small school here and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The village lands cover 840 acres and consist for the most part of inferior *bhur* soil, although better than that of the villages along the Gumti to the west; to the east it improves, being a fair loam with good cultivation. The revenue is Rs. 550. The place is held in taluqdari tenure by the Saiyid family of Shahpur and gives its name to an estate of 24 villages.

MAGDAPUR *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This is the smallest pargana in the district, having a total area of only 34,537 acres or 54 square miles. It forms the central portion of the *parehar* or the tract between the Gumti and Kathna rivers, being bounded on the north by Atwa Piparia and on the south by Aurangabad. To the west are Muhamdi and Pasgawan and to the east Haidarabad. It is a poor tract with much jungle, inferior soil, a sparse population and very slender means of irrigation. In the west along the Gumti there is a narrow strip of precarious *tarai;* and this is succeeded by a high belt of sandy *bhur*, some two miles and a half in breadth. There is a slight depression in the centre, and further east is a strip of sál forest, some two or three miles wide, beyond which is a low tract of swampy ground along the Kathna. In the best part of the pargana the soil is a light and dry loam of small capability. The whole of the tract is unhealthy and all save a small portion is precarious. Most of the villages, however, belong to taluqdars and save in a few instances require no special attention. The worst are Baghun and Bastauli in the *bhur* tract, and Ghaffarnagar, Kamalpur, Kumbhi and Munda Muafi in the centre.

Cultivation is naturally poor. The chief crops are bajra, moth and urd in the kharif, and barley in the rabi. Less sugarcane is grown here than in any other part of the tahsil, and rice and wheat exhibit a correspondingly low proportion. Irrigation is rarely obtainable, almost the only source of supply being a few earthen wells, and these are both difficult to construct and impossible to maintain. At the first regular settlement

18,054 acres or 52 per cent. of the whole was cultivated; but a great decline set in later, as owing to the famine of 1897 and other causes large numbers of cultivators migrated, and the average area under the plough for the twelve years preceding the last settlement was only 17,910 acres or 51·8 per cent. Since that time there has been some improvement, for in 1904 the cultivated area was 21,094 acres or 61 per cent. The double-cropped area is very small, amounting to only 694 acres, while no more than 1,158 acres were irrigated. The culturable area, 11,905 acres in all, comprises 425 acres under groves, a considerable proportion of fallow and much jungle land which has never been reclaimed. Only 1,590 acres were returned as barren, 87 acres being actually unfit for cultivation, and the rest either under water or occupied by roads and buildings. From these figures it is clear that much of the so-called culturable area is of a very poor description.

Rents are mainly paid in kind and the cash rates are very low, being generally the same as in Atwa Piparia. There are many Ahirs in the pargana, who devote themselves more to cattle-breeding than to agriculture, and a fine stamp of bullock is reared in the pastures along the Kathna. The revenue demand at the summary settlement was Rs. 5,064. This was raised at the regular assessment to Rs. 15,544; but this proved too high and reductions were subsequently made from time to time, the ultimate demand being only Rs. 10,984. At the last settlement the final revenue was sanctioned at Rs. 11,860, representing an enhancement of eight per cent. on the former demand.

The population of the pargana at the first Oudh census of 1869 was 9,949. This rose to 11,941 in 1881, but since that date successive enumerations have shown a constant decline. In 1891 there were 11,602, and at the last census 10,720 inhabitants, giving an average density of only 198 to the square mile. Musalmans are somewhat more numerous than usual, amounting to 2,130 souls. The only place of any size is the Pathan settlement of Amirnagar. Magdapur is an insignificant village, and there are no markets of any importance. Communications are fair. The pargana is traversed by the direct road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi, which is crossed near Amirnagar by the road

from Aurangabad to Gola, joining the main road from Lakhimpur and Gola to Muhamdi on the northern border.

Magdapur was originally part of the great pargana of Barwar Anjana. In early days it was held by the Bachhils, who gave place to the Saiyids of Barwar, and then to Ibad-ullah Khan of Muhamdi. In 1786 Mansa Ram, the chakladar, restored the old zamindars, who held their villages for nearly seventy years. In 1851, however, Raja Ashraf Ali accepted a farming lease of most of the villages, and thus by a great piece of fortune managed to get himself recognised as proprietor by the British Government. After the mutiny the jungle along the Kathna was granted to several private individuals; but their capital proved inadequate to cope with the difficulties presented by malaria and scarcity of labour; the grants were consequently resumed and either sold or maintained as forest. There are now 36 villages in the pargana, divided into 39 mahals, and all of the latter, save six in the possession of small coparcenary communities, are owned by taluqdars. The Rani of Shahpur holds the Magdapur estate of 25 villages and one mahal; Mr. Hearsey of Mamri owns two villages and two mahals; two villages belong to the Raja of Mahmudabad, and the Harinagar grant to the Kurmi taluqdar of Paila. Of the rest, three villages are owned by Brahmans, and two by the old Bachhil proprietors.

MAIKALGANJ, *Pargana* AURANGABAD, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

A small and decayed village in the south of the pargana, lying in latitude 27° 43′ north and longitude 80° 21′ east, some five miles south of Aurangabad, on the metalled road from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur, at a distance of 24 miles from the former. To the east of the village is a large tank and to the west is an extensive encamping-ground on both sides of the road. Hard by is a mud-built *sarai* now in ruins, built in 1852 by Ghulam Ali Khan, darogha. The bazar, which is now of little importance and contains only a few shops, was built by Hakim Mahdi Ali Khan, while nazim of Khairabad and Muhamdi from 1799 to 1820. There are four sugar factories here, the export of which is said to amount to the value of Rs. 50,000 annually. The population in 1901 numbered 978 persons, of whom 100 were Musalmans.

The area of the village is 515 acres and is divided into four mahals of equal size held in joint zamindari tenure by Khattris, Ahirs and Baqqals; it is assessed to a revenue of Rs. 460. To the east of the road and to the west of the village the soil is light and sandy; but the rest is a fair quality, although the *dofasli* area is very small.

MAILANI, *Pargana* KUKRA MAILANI, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This village, which shares with Kukra the honour of giving its name to the pargana, stands on the edge of the forest, in latitude 28° 17′ north and longitude 80° 21′ east, close to the Shahjahanpur border and 38 miles by rail from Lakhimpur. Through it passes the road from the latter place to Pilibhit. The railway crosses the road to the south-east of the village and close by is the station, which is a local railway centre of some little importance. From it branches off to the north-east the line to Dudhwa and Sonaripur, while south-west runs the steam tramway to Pawayan and Shahjahanpur. The place is a great timber market, logs, sleepers and charcoal being exported in large quantities during the dry season. The village itself is a small one, having at the last census a population of 894 persons, including 215 Musalmans and a considerable proportion of Pasis. There is a bazar, in which markets are held twice a week, a post-office and an aided primary school. The village lands are 2,090 acres in extent; but about two-thirds consist of forest and cultivation is poor. The revenue is Rs. 700, and the proprietor is the Raja of Oel in Kheri.

MAJHGAIN, *Pargana and Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This large village is situated in the north-western portion of the pargana, in latitude 28° 21′ north and longitude 80° 42′ east, on the road from Nighasan to Paila, some thirteen miles north-west of the tahsil headquarters. It consists of a main site on the road and several detached hamlets, with an aggregate population at the last census of 2,430 persons, one-fourth of whom are Musalmans. Ahirs are the chief cultivating caste. The southern portion of the village is cut up by channels of the Chauka, and lies between the Tikaria and Gahra *nalas*, while to the south-

west is a stretch of grass and tree jungle. The whole area is 7,003 acres; but much of this is uncultivated, and the total revenue of the village is Rs. 2,100. It is owned by Raj Raghubar Singh of the Jangre house of Bhur. There is a primary school here, a bazar in which markets are held twice a week, and a cattle-pound.

MATERA, *Pargana* DHAURAHRA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A very large village lying in latitude 28° 5′ north and longitude 81° 10′ east, on the bank of the Kauriala, which is here crossed by an important public ferry leading to the Dharmanpur pargana of Bahraich. Matera is connected by unmetalled roads with Nighasan, a distance of 21 miles, and with Sisaiya in Firozabad on the south. The main site stands on the high bank of the river, below which is a large area of *tarai* intersected by channels of the Kauriala. The interior of the village is cut up by several streams and watercourses, and contains large stretches of uncultivated waste. To the north is jungle and to the north-west is an extensive *bhaghar* or lake formed in an old bed of the river. The total area is 10,819 acres, but of this only a small portion is assessed to revenue, the demand being Rs. 2,900. It is owned by the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, on whom it was bestowed after its confiscation from the Raja of Dhaurahra. The population in 1891 numbered 2,775 souls, and at the last census had risen to 3,169. Ahirs, Musalmans and other cultivating castes form the bulk of the inhabitants. The total includes the population of the numerous hamlets, the chief of which is Ambargarh to the south, where are the ruins of the old Jangre fort. To the west of the main site is a bungalow belonging to the Kapurthala estate. There is a small school at Matera, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week.

MITAULI, *Pargana* KASTA, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This large village, famous in local annals as the headquarters of one of the main branches of the Ahbans and especially of the notorious Raja Lone Singh, stands in latitude 27° 49′ north and longitude 80° 28′ east, on the road from Lakhimpur to Aurangabad, at a distance of about 20 miles south-west of the former,

five miles from Kasta, and two miles east of the Kathna river. According to the returns of the last census, the population was 3,089, including 383 Musalmans and a large number of Brahmans. Mitauli contains a police-station, post-office, cattle-pound, school, and a bazar of some local importance, in which markets are held twice weekly. The thana stands within the large ruined fort of Lone Singh, adjoining the village on the south; this was the place where the fugitives from Sitapur sought refuge in 1857, although they were afterwards confined by the Raja elsewhere; it was a very strong fort, with a double wall, but was abandoned without opposition on the approach of the English troops. The village lands are very extensive, covering no less than 5,011 acres. Round the site are large groves of mango trees, while on the east, north and west are stretches of jungle; the soil is a good loam in the centre, but to the extreme west it is very sandy. The proprietary right was conferred on Captain Orr after the mutiny, but was afterwards sold to the Raja of Mahmudabad, the present owner. The revenue is Rs. 3,150. The history of the Ahbans and Raja Lone Singh has already been given in Chapter V.

MUHAMDI, *Pargana and Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

The headquarters of the tahsil are located in a small town on the road from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur, situated in latitude 27° 57′ north and 80° 12′ east, at a distance of some 36 miles west of Lakhimpur and 20 miles from Shahjahanpur. The river Gumti flows three miles to the east. From the eastern outskirts of the town branch roads run north-west to Pawayan and south-east to Aurangabad. The town, which is surrounded by large mango groves, bears a squalid appearance, as owing to a local superstition there were till recently no brick houses, all the dwellings being poor mud-built structures. The population of Muhamdi at the first Oudh census of 1869 numbered 6,861 souls, but since that time there has been a marked decline. In 1881 the total fell to 6,635, and though it rose again in 1891 to 6,932, the last census showed only 6,278 inhabitants, of whom 3,412 were Hindus, 2,824 Musalmans, 25 Christians, while the remaining 17 were Aryas or Sikhs.

At annexation Muhamdi was made the headquarters of a district, but in 1859 the new station at Lakhimpur was built and the place fell in importance. It now contains a tahsil, which was formerly located in an imambara, but now has its own building, a police-station, post-office, registration office, dispensary, cattle-pound, a middle vernacular school, and two girls' schools. The tahsil and police-station are in the same building on the outskirts of the town; the old civil court-house, which is no longer required, affords accommodation to the tahsildar and naib-tahsildar. There are five *muhallas* in the place, known as Sarayan, Lakhpera, Bazar Khurd, Ganj and Sitlapur Devi Asthan.

The history of Muhamdi is intimately connected with that of the Barwar Saiyids and their successors, and has been already narrated in the history of the district. The old brick fort with its two oblong courtyards, now in a state of decay, was built in the early years of the reign of Aurangzeb by Saiyid Muqtadi, the great-grandson of Sadr Jahan of Pihani. The town appears to date from the same period. It was improved and enlarged by Ali Akbar Khan, the ancestor of the present taluqdar of Shahpur. This man built the outer works of the fort and the imambara, in the days of Saadat Khan, the first ruler of Oudh. From 1784 to the present day the town and its lands have been the property of Government, having been under direct management and declared as such by a judicial decree in 1868. In 1879 they were made over to the municipal committee. Muhamdi was the residence of Hakim Mahdi Ali Khan from 1799 to 1820, while Nazim of Muhamdi and Khairabad. He made a garden to the west of the town, known as Mahdi Bagh, and built a sarai, mosque, and the bazar called Saadatganj after Nawab Saadat Ali Khan. The latter was very fond of the place and used frequently to reside here. He laid out another garden to the east of the town, at a distance of about a mile from the main site, and planted an avenue of trees along the road. His house is now in ruins and the garden has been much neglected. In it is a new inspection bungalow. To the west of the town is a tank surrounded by flights of steps in brick, built in 1863 by public subscription.

Muhamdi is now of little importance. The market is held twice a week and a considerable amount of trade is carried on,

chiefly in sugar, of which there are six refineries here. The town was constituted a municipality in 1879, but on the 1st of April, 1904, it was reduced to the status of a notified area under Act I of 1900. Its affairs are now managed by a small committee under the presidency of the tahsildar. The details of municipal income and expenditure since 1891 will be found in the appendix.*

MUHAMDI *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This pargana lies in the western portion of the tahsil, marching with the Shahjahanpur district on the north and west, and with pargana Pasgawan on the south-west and south. To the east the boundary is formed by the Gumti, which separates the pargana from Atwa Piparia and Magdapur. It is larger in extent than most of the parganas of this tahsil, having a total area of 73,208 acres or 114 square miles. The tract presents somewhat diverse physical characteristics in different parts. Along the Gumti there is a narrow belt of uncultivated *tarai;* this gives place to a strip of uneven land, covered in places with dense jungle; and further inland for the distance of about a mile is a belt of high light soil with deficient means of irrigation and very little better than mere *bhur*. The level descends towards the north-west, where the land is very swampy, with patches of *dhak* jungle and coarse grass. South of Muhamdi the soil improves, being a high-lying loam which grows stiffer towards the Shahjahanpur border, but is of a good quality throughout, except in the neighbourhood of the streams. These are the Chuha, which carries off the drainage of the central portion, and the Andchuha, which flows along the Pasgawan boundary: both have well-defined beds, and eventually fall into the Gumti. Most of the villages have some precarious areas, but the worst are those in the north-west and east: the former by reason of their liability to flooding, and the latter on account of the large proportion of *bhur* soil. In all 34 villages are thus classified, but several of them belong to the Shahpur estate and require no special attention.

The cultivation is generally poor, the management is as a rule bad and the tenants are inferior. The holdings are large and the plough duty very high. At the first regular settlement 54

* Appendix, Table XVI.

per cent. of the land was under cultivation, but since that time there has been a considerable improvement. From 1884 to 1895 the average area cultivated was 44,046 acres or 60 per cent.; the pargana deteriorated in the famine, but has now fully recovered, as in 1904 no less than 48,784 acres or over 66 per cent. were under the plough, and 7,610 acres bore a double crop. Of the remaining area, 19,318 acres were classed as culturable, and 5,106 acres as barren, the former included 2,832 acres of grove land and a large amount of *bhur* and jungle which has never been cultivated and would probably not repay tillage; and the latter, with the exception of but 190 acres, was either under water or occupied by sites and roads. Means of irrigation are fairly plentiful, both in the shape of tanks and the numerous unprotected wells which can be made in most places. The smaller streams are also utilized to some extent. The rabi is as a rule the more important harvest in that it covers a larger area. The chief staples are wheat and gram, while in the kharif rice takes the lead, followed by sugarcane, arhar and bajra.

Rents are mainly paid in cash, grain rates being only resorted to in the case of precarious lands. At the last settlement the average cash rate was Rs. 3·59 per acre, a very low figure; for high caste tenants, who are numerous, it was only Rs. 3·12, and for others Rs. 3·83. Ahirs, Chamars, Brahmans, Pasis and Rajputs are the chief cultivating castes, but there are fair numbers of Kurmis and Muraos, the latter paying Rs. 5·02, or less than in any other part of the tahsil. There is a large amount of proprietary cultivation by members of the many pattidari communities, who are generally in poor circumstances. The revenue of the pargana at the summary settlement was Rs. 37,362, and at the regular assessment this was raised, after several alterations, to Rs. 55,237. The present final demand represents a very moderate enhancement of 12 per cent., the total being Rs. 63,645, of which Rs. 62,216 is actually realizable, the difference being the nominal assessment of the 277 acres of revenue-free lands and of fee simple grants imposed for the purpose of calculating cesses.

The population of the pargana at the first Oudh census of 1869 was 49,016 persons, and since that time there have been

some remarkable fluctuations. In 1881 the total was 55,333, and ten years later 56,889. At the last census, however, the number of inhabitants had fallen to only 46,273, giving an average density of 406 to the square mile. The decrease was chiefly due to the migration which followed on the famine of 1896. Musalmans numbered 4,549, or less than ten per cent. Muhamdi itself is the only place of any size in the pargana, and but one village, Dilawarpur, has over 1,000 inhabitants. Means of communication are good. Through Muhamdi passes the main road from Lakhimpur to Shahjahanpur, metalled in places, while a cross road runs through the town from Pawayan in Shahjahanpur to Aurangabad on the south. Two miles west of Muhamdi, at Shankarpur, a branch road runs south to Pasgawan and the Sitapur main road.

Like most of the rest of the tahsil, this pargana formed part of the great mahal of Barwar Anjana. It was held by the Pihani Saiyids till about 1743, when they were ousted by Raja Ibad-ullah Khan, a Sombansi convert, whose descendants held a vast estate till 1793, when it was broken up, and the settlements were made with the various village communities. Shortly before annexation Ashraf Ali Khan, a descendant of Ibad-ullah, obtained a number of villages on lease, and these were afterwards incorporated in the Bahadurnagar taluqa. There are now altogether 136 villages in the pargana, divided into 249 mahals. Of the latter, two are the property of Government, 29 are held by taluqdars, 76 in single and 114 in joint zamindari, 27 in pattidari, and one in bhaiyachara tenure. The Rani of Shahpur, the present name of Bahadurnagar, owns 21 villages and two mahals; three villages and two mahals belong to the Raja of Partabgarh; and one village to Mahant Har Charan Das of Maswasi in Unao. Saiyids hold altogether 40 villages, the remnants of the Muhamdi estate; besides the Shahpur estate, they have that of Magrahna, at present held by Mir Abd-us-Samad Khan and comprising six villages and one mahal. Brahmans own as many as 28 villages; Banias, Gaurs, Sombansis and Pathans six each; Sheikhs five; Kayasths and Kurmis four each, and Khattris three.

MUHAMDI *Tahsil.*

This tahsil is the south-western subdivision of the district and is made up of the seven parganas of Muhamdi, Pasgawan, Aurangabad, Magdapur, Atwa Piparia, Haidarabad and Kasta, all of which have been separately described with reference to their physical characteristics, agriculture, revenue and landed proprietors. The total area of the tahsil in 1903 was 416,489 acres or nearly 651 square miles.

Briefly considered, this tahsil stands higher than the rest of the district and consists of a fairly level tract traversed by the Sukheta, Gumti and Kathna rivers and their affluents, running generally from north to south. Along the banks of these streams the soil is usually high and sandy, and devoid of means of irrigation. The intervening spaces consist of strips of loam of varying quality, with a few small depressions. Much of the land is still uncultivated owing to the presence of jungle, which is specially prevalent along the Kathna and between that river and the Gumti in Magdapur and Atwa Piparia.

The tahsil forms a subdivision of the district in the charge of a full-powered deputy magistrate. The tahsildar resides at Muhamdi, and in addition there are two honorary magistrates, Muhammad Khalil-ullah Khan in the Gola police circle and Munshi Tasadduq Husain in thana Mitauli. For police purposes there are stations at Muhamdi, Pasgawan, Mitauli and Gola. The jurisdiction of the first extends over the whole of the Muhamdi, Atwa Piparia and Magdapur parganas; that of the Pasgawan circle is conterminous with the pargana of that name; that of Mitauli includes Kasta, Aurangabad and a small portion of Haidarabad, the remainder being in the Gola circle.

Means of communication are better on the whole in this tahsil than in the other subdivisions. The railway only touches the extreme north-eastern corner running past Gola, where there is a station, but there is a large number of good roads. The provincial road from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur runs through the south of Aurangabad and the south-west of Pasgawan, crossing the Gumti and Sukheta rivers by bridges. That on the former is near Chaparthala, whence a road runs north-east to Aurangabad, Kasta and Lakhimpur. Through Muhamdi runs the main road

from Shahjahanpur to Gola and Lakhimpur, a considerable proportion of which is metalled. The parts so treated are those between Gola and Mamri and the sandy portions near the Kathna, Gumti and Sukheta rivers. Another road goes from Muhamdi direct to Lakhimpur, but is throughout unmetalled. The cross roads are those from Muhamdi to Pasgawan, from Pawayan to Muhamdi and Aurangabad, from the latter place to Magdapur and the Gola road, and from Mamri to Kasta and Sitapur. From Mamri another branch road runs to Piparia and Pawayan, and from Gola roads radiate to Khutar, Aliganj and Bhira.

Muhamdi is the chief place in the tahsil and is now administered as a notified area under Act I of 1900. The only other towns are Aurangabad and Gola, and these together with the pargana capitals and the larger villages have been separately mentioned. The tahsil did not assume its present shape till after the first Oudh census of 1869, as at that time the parganas of Haidarabad and Sikandarabad were included in the old Gola tahsil. The total population of the tract now comprising Muhamdi was 223,583 persons. The increase in the following twelve years was small, the total number of inhabitants in 1881 being 232,909. In 1891 the population had risen to 258,617, but the ensuing decade saw a considerable decline, by reason of the famine of 1897 which resulted in extensive migration, and at the last census the population was 257,989. Of these 136,887 were males and 121,102 females, the latter having increased considerably while the former had diminished by 1,821. Classified according to religions, there were 223,133 Hindus, 34,540 Musalmans, 224 Christians, 78 Aryas, 13 Sikhs and one Jain. Of the Hindus the best represented castes were Chamars and Brahmans, while next to them came Kurmis, Ahirs, Pasis, and Rajputs, all in numbers exceeding 10,000. The Rajputs comprise members of great variety of clans, the chief being Chauhans, Katehriyas, Rathors, Nikumbhs, Gaurs and Gautams. Other Hindu castes deserving of mention are Banias, Lodhs, Kisans, Kachhis, Kahars, Nais and Telis, all these occurring in numbers over 5,000. Of the Musalmans the Pathans are the most numerous, 7,560 souls in all; followed by Sheikhs, Gaddis, Behnas, Julahas and Faqirs.

The tahsil is purely agricultural in character. The census returns show that nearly 77 per cent. of the inhabitants are directly engaged in agriculture, while a large number of the remainder are more or less intimately connected with the land. Of the other industries the chief were the supply of articles of food and drink, and the manufacture and sale of cotton fabrics. One of the most important industries is the manufacture of raw sugar, which is exported in large quantities to the Shahjahanpur market. The other trades include work in timber and forest produce and the ordinary crafts that are to be found in almost every village.

MUNDA, *Pargana and Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This village forms part of the Jangre estate of Bhira and is held by Raj Raghubar Singh at a revenue of Rs. 3,875. It lies in latitude 28° 9′ north and longitude 80° 55′ east, in the extreme south of the pargana, at a distance of six miles from Nighasan and two miles east of the road to Lakhimpur. The lands of Munda are bounded on the south by the Chauka, and much of the area of 4,809 acres is uncultivated; a good deal of *jarhan* rice is, however, grown above the high bank. The village consists of a number of hamlets, one of which is Pachperi, which gives its name to the ferry on the Lakhimpur road. The aggregate population in 1901 was 2,005 souls; there has been a considerable decline of late years, for in 1891 the total was 2,132. Munda appears to be a place of some antiquity; there is an ancient site in the middle of the village, and in the south are the ruins of a small fort.

NIGHASAN, *Pargana and Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This is a mere village which derives its importance solely from its selection as the headquarters of the tahsil. It stands in latitude 28° 14′ north and longitude 80° 52′ east at the junction of the roads from Lakhimpur to Singahi and Banbirpur and from Paila to Matera on the Kauriala, at a distance of 23 miles north of Lakhimpur. Besides the tahsil and the police-station, which form part of the same building and stand outside the village to the north, Nighasan contains a post-office, cattle-pound, a small school and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. It has grown considerably since the removal of

the tahsil from Singahi, and at the last census contained 2,654 inhabitants, of whom 332 were Musalmans. The population is purely agricultural, with a large number of Murao cultivators. The lands of Nighasan cover 4,005 acres, assessed at Rs. 3,750 and owned by the heirs of Thakur Gobardhan Singh of Bhira. The village is bounded on the north-east by the Suheli river, in the neighbourhood of which there is a small area of *tarai* with a little rice cultivation. To the west is the Bastia *nala*, a branch of which cuts through the village close to the tahsil and falls into the Suheli *tarai*.

NIGHASAN *Pargana, Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This pargana was up to 1869 included in Bhur, so that its history as a separate subdivision is but brief. It occupies the central portion of the tahsil and forms part of the tract between the Chauka and Suheli rivers, from Palia on the north-west to Dhaurahra on the south-east. The extreme eastern corner touches the Kauriala. To the north is Khairigarh, and to the south and west beyond the Chauka is Bhur. The whole pargana is a low alluvial plain with belts of *tarai* along the rivers. That of the Chauka has an average breadth of some four miles, extending in land to the Ghaghi *nala*, which probably represents an old bed of the river. Along the Suheli the *tarai* is mainly waste land and jungle, with a considerable amount of forest stocked with khair, shisham and gular. A large portion of this jungle was taken over by Government after the mutiny and is now included in the reserved forests of the Khairigarh range The Suheli is fed by numerous small tributary streams which carry down the drainage from the higher lands; many of these are mere back-waters of the river through which the autumnal floods escape out of the Suheli and inundate the *tarai*. All the villages along the Chauka and Kauriala are liable to diluvion and flooding and are consequently precarious, while the parts of the pargana near the jungle in the north-west come under the same category, owing to the unhealthiness of the climate and their exposure to the ravages of wild animals. They are, however, held by large landowners and consequently do not require special attention.

The central tract of the pargana lies high and is not liable to flooding. The soil is a loam of average quality, intersected by numerous watercourses flowing into the rivers on the north and south and frequently connected with one another. There are also numbers of jhils resembling those which are to be found in pargana Bhur and all presenting the same characteristic appearance with a high bank on one side and a low marsh on the other. In places stretches of poor land are to be found with a light gritty soil, locally known as *tapar*, in which the sand is within a few inches of the surface. This tract includes all the best and most stable villages from Majhgain to Kardhaiya; they have an abundance of good groves and with ordinary seasons are generally prosperous.

The total area of the pargana is 149,971 acres or 234 square miles. This excludes the Government forests, which cover a considerable area along the Suheli in the north-west. The proportion of the land cultivated has always been small, as is only to be expected from the nature of the tract. At the first regular settlement it amounted to 44 per cent. and since that time there has been but a slight increase. At the last assessment 68,237 acres or about 45 per cent. were under the plough, and the development has been maintained in subsequent years. In 1904 the cultivated area was 68,829 acres or 45·4 per cent. of the whole, excluding the forest area, and 12,757 acres bore a double crop, the increase in the latter direction having been very marked. The area classed as culturable is necessarily very large, both on account of the fluctuating nature of the cultivation in many parts and also of the wide expanses of land which have never been reclaimed. It amounted in 1904 to no less than 64,935 acres, of which 2,361 acres were under groves and 34,591 acres were fallow, both old and new. Of the remaining area only 924 acres were entered as actually barren, the rest being either under water or occupied by sites and roads. Irrigation is practically unknown, and as a rule none is required. The kharif is by far the more important harvest, averaging about 78 per cent. of the total cultivated area, as against 43 per cent. occupied by the rabi. The chief kharif crops are rice in the *tarai* and the villages to the north-west, and maize in the central tract, while there is also a considerable amount under

kodon and the pulses. In the rabi, wheat generally predominates, followed by barley and peas.

The cultivation is generally poor and careless, a few villages in the central tract alone affording an exception to this rule. Much of the cultivated area is held by non-resident tenants and the holdings are everywhere large. Rents run very low and are practically the same as in Dhaurahra, the *nakshi* system being generally prevalent. Muraos, who are very numerous, are chiefly of the Kanaujia subdivision and are, as usual, excellent cultivators. Next to them come Ahirs, Chamars, Lodhs, Pasis, Brahmans and Musalmans. About half the land is held on grain rents, this system generally prevailing in the more precarious villages. The revenue demand of the pargana at the summary assessment was Rs. 27,615, and this was raised to Rs. 63,565 at the first regular settlement. The present final demand stands at Rs. 76,016, representing an enhancement of 20 per cent. The net sum payable, including Rs. 800 assessed on the alluvial mahals in 1901, is Rs. 73,311, the difference being the nominal revenue imposed on revenue-free estates for the purpose of calculating cesses.

The population of the pargana at the census of 1881 numbered 67,245 persons. At the following enumeration it rose to 73,739, but the ensuing ten years showed a slight decrease, as in 1901 the total number of inhabitants was 73,219, of whom 39,548, were males and 33,671 females. Classified according to religions, there were 65,066 Hindus, 8,084 Musalmans, and 69 others, Aryas, Christians and Sikhs. There is no town in the pargana, but the central tract contains a number of villages, such as Lodhauri, Nighasan, Rakheti, Daulatpur, Majhgain and Padhua, all of which have been separately mentioned. Means of communication are fair during the dry season and very bad in the rains. Through Nighasan runs the road from Lakhimpur to Singahi and the Nepal frontier, and this is crossed at the tahsil headquarters by that from Matera and Dhaurahra to Palia. The only other road leads from Khairigarh to Lakhimpur, crossing the latter at Bamhanpur and thence leading to the Sirsi ferry on the Chauka.

The history of the pargana is identical with that of Bhur. The greater portion belongs to the Jangre Chauhans of Bhira, an

account of whose family and estates has been given in Chapter III. At the present time the pargana contains 75 villages, forming 79 revenue mahals. Of the latter 68 are held by taluqdars, six in single and five in joint zamindari tenure. The Jangre taluqdars of Bijua owns 27 villages and one mahal known as the Nighasan estate; their kinsman of Bhur holds the Majhgain property of 35 villages and one mahal; three villages, known as the Tilokpur estate, belong to the Rani of Khairigarh; and one mahal to the Rani of Mahewa. Six villages are held revenue-free for life by Sardar Muhammad Hashim Khan of Sitapur; two are owned by Goshains, and one each by Kayasths and Kurmis.

NIGHASAN *Tahsil.*

This large tahsil is the northern and eastern subdivision of the district, and comprises the whole tract lying beyond the Chauka river as far as the Nepal boundary on the north and the Kauriala on the east, which separates this district from Bahraich. In the extreme north-west the tahsil marches with the Pilibhit district, and in the south-east with Sitapur, the dividing line being for the most part the Dahawar river. The tahsil is made up of the parganas of Nighasan, Palia, Khairigarh, Dhaurahra and Firozabad, each of which is separately described in detail, with an account of its physical characteristics, agriculture, revenue and landholders. Nighasan is one of the largest tahsils in Oudh. In 1904 the area was 622,203 acres or 972 square miles; but this is exclusive of the vast expanse of reserve forests which take up the greater portion of pargana Khairigarh and also large tracts of Nighasan and Palia. These forests have an area of some 267 square miles, so that the total for the tahsil amounts to no less than 1,239 square miles, a considerably larger extent of country than the whole of the Lucknow district. Almost the whole tahsil lies low and is subject to the influence of the Chauka, Suheli and other rivers. Beyond their high banks lie stretches of fair loam soil, which is cultivated with some success; but tenants are scarce and the climate is for the most part extremely bad. The forest parganas are the worst, and much damage is done by wild animals. In Dhaurahra and Firozabad there is no forest and the cultivation is generally more stable.

The forest tract is under departmental control, but the rest of the tahsil is administered as a subdivision of the district in the charge of a full-powered officer on the district staff. The tahsíldár has his headquarters at Nighasan, whither they were removed for greater convenience from their original location at Singahi in Khairigarh. In addition to the ordinary magisterial staff there are at present two honorary magistrates, the Raja of Mallanpur with jurisdiction in the Isanagar police circle and Lala Babu Lal in the Dhaurahra and Nighasan thanas. For the purposes of police administration there are stations at these three places and at Palia. The circles are consequently very large. That at Nighasan includes the whole of the Nighasan pargana, most of Khairigarh and a portion of Dhaurahra; the Palia circle comprises the rest of Khairigarh and all Palia save the small portion south of the Chauka, which belongs to Bhira in Lakhimpur; that of Isanagar includes the greater portion of Firozabad, while the rest belongs to Dhaurahra.

Means of communication in this tahsil are generally very poor. The north-western portion has for a few months in the year the advantage of the branch line of railway from Mailani to Palia and Sonaripur, with its short branch from Dudhwa to Chandan Chauki on the Mohan river. During the rains and early winter months the bridge over the Chauka is dismantled and the railway cannot in consequence be used. At that period the Chauka generally forms a bar to all communication with the rest of the district and the roads in the interior of the tahsil are in many cases impassable. The chief of these roads are those from Lakhimpur to Nighasan *viâ* Pachperi ghat and on to Singahi and the Nepal frontier, and from Palia to Nighasan and Matera on the Kauriala. Other roads include those from Lakhimpur to Khairigarh, crossing the Chauka by the Sirsi ferry; from Lakhimpur to Dhaurahra, Isanagar and Katauli, and from Dhaurahra to Kardhaiya and Nighasan. Besides these, there are the roads through the forest leading from Palia and Sonaripur to the Nepal border, and a few small tracks of little importance. The list of the ferries over the various rivers will be found in the appendix.

The only towns of the tahsil are Dhaurahra, Singahi and Isanagar; but there are a number of large villages, as mentioned in

theseveral pargana articles, and the more important of these have been separately described, as well as the various pargana capitals. For the post-offices, markets, fairs and schools of the tahsil reference must be made to the different lists given in the appendix.

The population of the tahsil at the first Oudh census of 1869 numbered only 180,302 persons. By 1881 the total had increased to a surprising extent, the recorded number of inhabitants being 268,306. This rose at the following census to 279,376; but the increase was not maintained, and for the next ten years the population remained almost stationary. In 1901 Nighasan contained altogether 281,123 inhabitants, of whom 148,133 were males and 132,990 females. The latter had largely increased, while the male population showed an actual decrease of 1,049 persons. Classified according to religions, there were 245,117 Hindus, 35,873 Musalmans, 57 Sikhs, 37 Christians, 16 Aryas, 12 Buddhists and 11 Jains. Of the Hindus, Chamars as usual are the strongest caste numerically, but they are closely followed by Lodhs and Ahirs, all of these having over 24,000 members apiece. Next come Muraos, Pasis, Brahmans, Kurmis and Gadariyas, all numbering over 10,000, and after these Kahars, Luniyas, Koris, Telis and Rajputs. The last are comparatively few in this tahsil, numbering 5,049 in all; they belong to many different clans, the chief being Chauhans, Rathors, Surajbansis, Katehriyas and Bais. Of the Musalmans the converted Rajputs are most numerous, amounting to 4,792 souls, drawn chiefly from the Chauhan, Katehriya and Gaur clans. Next to these come Julahas, Behnas, Nais, Pathans, Sheikhs, Darzis and Faqirs, no other sub-division having more than 1,500 representatives.

The occupations of the people are mainly agricultural: according to the census returns over 82 per cent. being directly dependent on the land. In addition to these there are considerable numbers of herdsmen and graziers, as the northern parganas have considerable grazing-grounds for their cattle. The other industries are very poorly represented in this tahsil: the chief are of course connected with the supply of articles of food and drink; but there are no manufactures of importance and the only trade deserving mention is that connected with the export of timber and other forest produce.

NIMGAON, *Pargana* PAILA, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This village forms part of the estate of Rai Ram Din Bahadur, the Kurmi taluqdar of Paila. It lies in latitude 27° 55′ north and longitude 80° 35′ east, on the branch road from Oel and Behjam to Bhadeora on the direct line from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi, some eleven miles west of the district headquarters. The place had in 1901 a population of 1,240 persons, chiefly residing in the central site. It is only deserving of mention as containing a police-station, as well as a cattle-pound, post-office, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The lands of Nimgaon cover 1,326 acres, assessed at Rs. 1,500. The village lies on the southern edge of the plateau between the Sarayan and Jamwari rivers; the northern portion is a good even tract of light loam, with a slight slope towards the south-west.

OEL, *Pargana* KHERI, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR

This large village lies on the road from Lakhimpur to Sitapur, some eight miles south of the former, in latitude 27° 50′ north and longitude 80° 45′ east. Parallel to the road runs the Lucknow, Sitapur and Bareilly State Railway, on which there is a station here to the south-east of the village. The inhabited site consists of two adjoining villages, Oel and Dhakwa, the latter lying on the road and the former to the east. Together they form a considerable collection of houses, with a total population of 5,317 souls at the last census, of whom about one-fifth were Musalmans; among the Hindus are many Brahmans. The place has a poor appearance, most of the dwellings being of mud. There is a fine temple of Mahadeo to the east of the village, built by Bakht Singh, an ancestor of Raja Krishn Datt Singh, the Chauhan taluqdar of Oel, whose estate is at present managed by the court of wards. The Raja's house stands on the south-east of the village towards the railway, within the wide perimeter of the old fort, a large irregular structure defended by a *fosse* lined with a bamboo fence and mud parapets. Oel possesses a post-office, school, a cattle-pound established in 1904, and a bazar in which markets are held twice weekly. In former days the place was a centre of the sugar industry, but now there is but one factory left. The village is administered under the Sanitation Act. The area is 1,294 acres, consisting of a

fertile stretch of good loam soil, with large groves on the south and east; the revenue is Rs. 1,100.

PADHUA, *Pargana and Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This large village lies in the eastern portion of the pargana, in latitude 28° 12′ north and longitude 81° 0′ east, on the road from Kardhaiya to Shitaba ferry on the Kauriala, some ten miles from the tahsil headquarters. It stands on the rising ground above the Kauriala *tarai*. The village has a total area of 4,127 acres; the northern half is mostly level, but terminates in a fringe of well raised land broken by a deep winding *nala* and contains several stretches of *dhak* jungle; while the southern half is traversed by a similar *nala*, beyond which the soil is very inferior. The village itself consists of a large main site lying amid numerous groves of mango trees and several small hamlets. The total population at the last census numbered 3,632 persons, of whom 811 were Musalmans. Ahirs are the prevailing Hindu caste. The revenue of the village is Rs. 4,000, and the proprietors are the heirs of Thakur Gobardhan Singh of the Jangre family. There is a large upper primary school in the village, but nothing else of any importance.

PAILA, *Pargana* PAILA, *tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

The village which gives its name to the pargana is a small place of little importance, standing in latitude 27° 53′ N. and longitude 80° 36′ E., at a distance of twelve miles west of Lakhimpur, two miles south of Nimgaon and two miles north of the road from Lakhimpur to Mitauli. It possesses a large upper primary school and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The population at the last census numbered 1,775 souls, of whom 446 were Musalmans; the rest are chiefly Brahmans, Pasis and Chamars. They mainly reside in the dilapidated central site, which contains 292 houses. There is a small shrine dedicated to the Panchon Pir, in whose honour a fair is held annually in Jeth. The total area of the village is 1,628 acres; the greater part is an even tract of good loam, well irrigated and in a fair state of cultivation, but to the west the land is sandy and uneven. The revenue is Rs. 2,075. The proprietor is Rai Ram Din Bahadur, the Kurmi taluqdar of Paila.

PAILA *Pargana, Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This pargana lies in the west of the tahsil, marching with Haidarabad and Kasta of Muhamdi on the west and south, the boundary in the latter case being the Sarayan river. To the north lie Kukra, Mailani and Bhur, and to the east pargana Kheri, the dividing line for about half the distance on this side being the Jamwari. The present pargana only dates from 1869, when Paila was amalgamated with the old pargana of Karanpur, the name formerly given to the northern portion. It has now a total area of 65,147 acres or 102 square miles. The pargana as a whole is distinctly inferior to both Haidarabad and Kheri. In the north it adjoins forests, while along the Ul there is a stretch of *tarai*, giving place to a light sandy soil, hardly distinguishable from *bhur*. The east, centre and south lie low and suffer greatly in wet years. In the extreme south, too, there is a large area of *dhak* jungle. The only good land is comprised in two small blocks occupying the centre of the northern and southern halves of the pargana. Here the soil is a good loam, but elsewhere it is a stiff clay very difficult to work. There are several large jhils in the depressions, the chief being those at Simrai and Kutwa; the latter is a long and narrow stretch of water, but perfectly useless for irrigation owing to the height and sandy nature of its banks. Another large jhil is that at Rasulpur, and here the water is accessible and adds greatly to the fertility of the neighbouring villages. As much of the pargana is liable to flooding, there are many mahals of a precarious character. Most of these, however, belong to large estates and only two, Ghughalpur Khurd on the Ul and Salehabad in the centre, require special attention.

At the first regular settlement 55 per cent. of the land was cultivated. Since that time there has been a very considerable increase, for at the last assessment the proportion under the plough was over 56 per cent., and in 1904 the cultivated area was 43,841 acres or more than 67 per cent., the amount having steadily increased since the assessment. The development of the pargana is further illustrated by the extension of the double-cropped area, which now averages about 9,000 acres. The culturable land, including 1,823 acres under groves, is given as 14,925 acres, of which

about one-third is fallow, while of the rest much is of a very poor quality. The remaining area of 6,318 acres is mainly under water or occupied by roads and buildings, no more than 130 acres being described as actually barren. The pargana has fair facilities for irrigation, both in the shape of the numerous jhils and tanks and also of wells, which can be dug in most places, though the subsoil is generally sandy. The *dhenkli* or lever system is almost universally employed. The kharif is in most years the principal harvest; rice is the chief staple, but there is a large amount of sugarcane, while kodon and urd are also extensively grown. In the rabi, gram takes the lead, followed by wheat and barley.

The cultivation is on the whole fairly good. The tenants are chiefly Kurmis, Ahirs, Brahmans and Chamars. Rents are mainly paid in cash, although in the more precarious lands grain-rents are still prevalent. The average cash rate at the last settlement was Rs. 5·17 per acre, ranging from Rs. 5·35 for low caste to Rs. 4·69 for high caste tenants. Kurmis pay on an average Rs. 5·44, and are mainly found in the good loam villages. The revenue demand at the summary settlement was Rs. 32,248, and this was raised at the regular assessment to Rs. 45,618. The final demand now stands at Rs. 60,078, of which Rs. 30 are nominal, representing an enhancement of 21 per cent. on the expiring revenue.

The population of the pargana has risen rapidly of late years. In 1881 there were 38,805 inhabitants, and ten years later 43,948. At the last census of 1901 the total was 48,535, of whom 6,184 were Musalmans. There are no towns in the pargana and the largest village is Paila itself, with a population of 1,775. The pargana is fairly well provided with means of communication. The northern half is traversed by the railway from Lakhimpur to Pilibhit; and although there are no stations within the limits of the pargana, those at Gola and Phardahan are quite close on either side. Parallel to the railway runs the road from Lakhimpur to Gola and north of this is the road from the latter place to Aliganj, with a small branch leading to Bhurwara. Through the centre of the pargana runs the direct road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi, with a branch leading from Bhadeora to Nimgaon and Oel; and in the extreme south is the road from Lakhimpur to Mitauli and Aurangabad.

The early history of the pargana is lost in antiquity. That it was inhabited at an early date is shown by the existence of numerous remains along the banks of the Ul. These are apparently the ruins of an ancient town, and consist of an almost unbroken line of brick-strewn *kheras*, extending from the village of Rampur Gokul to Ranjilinagar. Pillars and carvings of the Gupta period have been found here, as well as coins of the Kanauj kings. In later times the pargana was held by the Ahbans, one of whose headquarters was at Bhurwara. Between 1840 and 1850 a large portion of the pargana was seized by the Janwars of Oel and Mahewa, with the result that constant fighting took place between these chieftains and Raja Lone Singh of Mitauli. The latter eventually obtained the lease of the villages and the Oel Raja was subsequently expelled, but not till a large portion of the pargana had been ruined and several villages, such as Atwa and Shankarpur in the centre, had been completely destroyed. After the mutiny the Mitauli estate was confiscated and bestowed on various grantees, some of whom afterwards sold their estates. At the present time the pargana contains 119 villages, divided into 157 mahals. Of the latter, one is the property of Government, 67 are held by taluqdars, 35 in single and 48 in joint zamindari, five in pattidari and one in bhaiyachara tenure. The largest landowner is the Raja of Partabgarh, who owns 19 villages and one mahal. The Rani of Mahewa has nine villages and one mahal; the Raja of Oel four villages known as the Bijauli estate; the Kurmi taluqdar of Paila owns nine villages and one mahal; the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala owns four, and the Raja of Mahmudabad two villages. Other Musalmans have in all 32 villages, including two held by the taluqdar of Jalalpur; eleven villages and two mahals belonging to another of the Ahbans, the taluqdar of Kotwara; one village, Pipra, and one mahal held by the taluqdar of Raipur, a third member of the same clan; and one village and six mahals owned by another kinsman, Muhammad Khalil-ullah Khan of Bhurwara. Of the rest, Khattris are in possession of eleven villages, while smaller properties are held by Kayasths, Brahmans, Lodhs, Kurmis, Banias and Hindu Ahbans.

PALIA, *Pargana* PALIA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

The capital of the pargana, known as Palia Kalan to distinguish it from Palia Khurd, a village to the south, stands in latitude 28° 26′ north and longitude 80° 35′ east, on the branch line of railway from Mailani to Dudhwa and Sonaripur, at a distance of nineteen miles from the junction. Roads lead south-east to Nighasan, 23 miles, south-west to Bhira, and north-west to Tirkaulia and the Nepal border. The railway station is close to the village, and during the cold weather a considerable export trade is carried on in timber and grain. Palia is a large village, principally composed of grass huts, with one central site of about 900 houses and three small hamlets. Though very unhealthy, the population is on the increase, the number of inhabitants at the last census being 4,332, of whom 1,071 were Musalmans. Kisans are the prevailing Hindu caste. Palia contains a mud-built police-station in the centre of the village, a post-office, cattle-pound, and an upper primary school. There are three temples and a mosque. The drinking water is obtained from four masonry wells, but the quality is inferior. The village lands cover, 3,102 acres assessed at Rs. 1,950, and held in two equal mahals by Thakur Bhajan Singh and Thakur Jangi Singh, zamindars, of the old Katehriya family of Khutar in Shahjahanpur.

PALIA *Pargana, Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

This pargana occupies the extreme north-western corner of the district, lying to the north-west of Nighasan between the Chauka on the south, which separates it from Bhur, and the Sarju on the north-east, which forms the Khairigarh boundary. To the north is the Nepal territory and to the west the Pilibhit district, the dividing line being for the most part the Sutia stream. From an agricultural point of view the tract is of a wretched description, consisting for the most part of an unhealthy expanse of forest and waste grazing land cut up in every direction by innumerable streams and water channels, with several large swamps and depressions in the abandoned beds of the Chauka and other rivers. The Chauka is more unstable in this pargana than lower down in its course, and even in the interior cultivation is as fluctuating as the river. Everywhere the crops are exposed to the depredations

of wild animals, and everywhere malaria of a severe type is prevalent, even on the dry and elevated spots far from the marshes. Of late years, too, cholera and cattle disease have raged in this pargana, and little progress can be expected. The water is notoriously bad, and the proximity of Nepal is another factor in the instability of the pargana. There are a few settled villages, and the tenants who live in them cultivate where they please in the adjacent tracts, rarely paying any attention to one village for two years running. The only real value of the pargana is as a forest reserve and a pasture land for the graziers, who annually bring their cattle hither from the south.

Cultivation is consequently poor and careless in the extreme, except in the neighbourhood of Palia itself and in a few villages round Majhra in the extreme north. Most of the land is held by cattle-breeders, who pay far more attention to their animals than to their fields. The whole tract is precarious to a greater or less degree; the best villages are those round Palia, although even they are liable to damage from the encroachments of the Chauka. As, however, most of the land is the property of large taluqdars, only a few villages along the Chauka belonging to small owners require special attention. The worst are Bazpur, Niranjanpur, Parasrampur and Nagla.

The area of the pargana is liable to change from year to year by reason of the action of the Chauka and other rivers. In 1904 the total was 68,837 acres or 107 square miles, but this excludes some 4,000 acres of reserved forests which belong to the Khairigarh range. The proportion of cultivated land is far lower than in any other part of the district. At the first regular settlement it amounted to only 21 per cent., while at the last assessment there had been a great decrease. In 1904 only 9,993 acres or little more than 14 per cent. was under the plough, and even this was greater than in the preceding year. No less than 50,313 acres were classed as culturable: this included 288 acres of groves and 14,242 acres of fallow, the rest being waste land that has never been reclaimed. Of the 8,531 acres returned as barren the bulk was under water or occupied by village sites, only 1,973 acres being shown as unfit for cultivation. The kharif harvest is by far the more important, occupying nearly double the area sown in

the rabi, while a considerable proportion, averaging over 20 per cent. of the cultivation, bears a double crop. The chief staple of the pargana is rice, followed by a little urd, kodon and maize in the kharif, while in the rabi barley takes the lead and the wheat area is small. There is no irrigation, as artificial watering is not required.

The rents are paid entirely in cash, but the rates are very low. At the last settlement the average for the whole pargana was Re. 1·6 per acre, and practically no difference is made for the different castes, except in the case of Muraos, who pay a slightly higher rate. The tenants are mainly Gadariyas, Ahirs, Chamars, Muraos and Musalmans, with a few Brahmans and Pasis. The holdings are large, and over one-third of the land is tilled by non-residents. The revenue of the pargana at the summary settlement was Rs. 12,338, but at the regular assessment this was reduced to Rs. 10,523. At the last settlement a further reduction was made and the final demand now stands at Rs. 9,966, of which Rs. 336 represents the temporary assessment of the alluvial mahals.

The population of the pargana has also decreased during the past thirty years. In 1881 it contained 18,277 inhabitants, but ten years later this had fallen to 15,235. At the last census the total was 13,996, of whom 2,250 were Musalmans, mainly Banjaras. Palia is the only place of any size or importance. It has grown slightly since the construction of the branch line of railway from Mailani to Sonaripur, which is used almost entirely for the export of timber. The line is only open for a few months in the year and communications are generally backward. Roads run from Palia to Bhira on the south-west and Nighasan on the south-east. Poor tracks also connect the place with Majhra and with Kanjaria in Khairigarh on the Nepal border. The only market worth mentioning is that at Palia.

The history of the pargana is almost identical with that of Khairigarh. In 1839 the pargana was farmed to relatives of the Katehriya rajas of Khutar in Shahjahanpur, and their descendants were subsequently declared proprietors by the British Government for the sole reason that they had endeavoured to bring part of the pargana under cultivation and that there were no others to lay

claim to this belated wilderness. Some of the landowners are hillmen from Nepal, who claim relationship with the Khairigarh house and who obtained a footing here by becoming sub-lessees of the Katehriyas. The bulk of the pargana, however, is now held by various grantees who took up large tracts under the waste land rules. There are now altogether 60 villages in the pargana, divided into 70 mahals. Of the latter, 48 are held by taluqdars, ten in single, and nine in joint zamindari, two in pattidari, and one in bhaiyachara tenure. The chief landowner is the Rani of Khairigarh, who holds the Majhra estate of 24 villages; Mr. Hearsey of Mamri owns eleven villages, six mahals and two pattis, known as the Ataria Srinagar estate; the Raja of Oel has the Ainthapur property of six villages; and the Jangre taluqdar of Bhur one mahal of Patwara in the extreme south. Of the rest, six villages belong to Chauhans, three to Musalmans and one to Goshains.

PASGAWAN, *Pargana* PASGAWAN, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

The capital of the pargana is a good village, though of no great size, lying in latitude 27° 49′ north and longitude 80° 10′ east, at a distance of nine miles south of Muhamdi, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road. The population in 1901 amounted to 1,434 persons, of whom 270 were Musalmans, while Brahmans were the most numerous Hindu caste. The place contains a mud-built police-station, situated within the village, a cattle-pound and a school. A market is held here twice a week and the annual sales are said to amount to Rs. 2,500. There is a ruined fort and a *sarai* here, built by Hakim Mahdi Ali Khan while Nazim of Muhamdi. The area of the village is 834 acres; the soil is an excellent loam except in the north-east, and means of irrigation are abundant. The village is divided into two mahals, 788 acres being held in pattidari tenure by Brahmans and Kayasths, while the latter also hold the remaining 46 acres in joint zamindari. The total revenue is Rs. 1,190.

PASGAWAN *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This pargana lies in the south-west corner of the district, between the Sukheta and Gumti rivers, the former separating it

from Shahjahanpur and the latter from the Magdapur and Aurangabad parganas. To the north lies Muhamdi and to the south the Hardoi district. The present pargana was formed in 1869 by the amalgamation of the old Pasgawan and Barwar subdivisions. The total area is now 76,803 acres or 120 square miles. Besides the two rivers already mentioned there are two other streams; one the Andchuha or Chuha, which for some distance forms the northern boundary and then turns south-east through the centre and joins the Gumti in the extreme south-east corner; while the other, also known as the Chuha, rises in Muhamdi and after traversing the eastern half falls into the Gumti near Maqsudpur. Both of these flow between high sandy banks broken by ravines. In the south-west there is a chain of swamps draining into the Hardoi district, and in their neighbourhood the land contains much *usar* and patches of grass and scrub jungle. The whole of the south is of an inferior quality; but elsewhere, save in the immediate neighbourhood of the streams and also in the clay lands along the Sukheta, the soil is a rich friable loam, of a fairly consistent quality, although it becomes very light near the Gumti. The really precarious mahals are few in number, as though much of the southern half comes under this description the villages generally form insignificant portions of other estates. The worst are Rampur Khokar, Faqirapur, Miranpur and Saidwara along the Gumti, Sirha in the south-east, and Mukaddarpur near Pasgawan.

The pargana is not highly developed: the cultivation is only fair, and in the south-west extremely poor. At the first settlement no more than 48 per cent. was cultivated, but since that time there has been much improvement. From 1884 to 1895 the average area under the plough was 44,564 acres or 58 per cent. of the whole, and since the last settlement the proportion has further increased. In 1904 the cultivated area was 50,799 acres or 66 per cent.; 7,462 acres bearing a double crop. These are the highest figures on record, the total having steadily risen since the famine of 1897. The culturable area is large, amounting to 20,718 acres: this includes 2,801 acres of grove land and a small amount of fallow, but fully two-thirds has never been tilled, and much of it would probably never repay cultivation. The actually barren area is very small, 371 acres in all, the remainder being either

under water or occupied by sites and roads. Means of irrigation are fairly abundant, and the proportion of land watered is high for this district. In addition to the tanks there are large numbers of good earthen wells, which can be constructed without difficulty in most villages. The rabi harvest usually exceeds the kharif in area; the principal crops are wheat, which is of a high quality in the upland villages, gram and barley. In the kharif rice predominates, while there is a fair amount of sugarcane.

Rents are almost wholly paid in cash. At the last settlement the average rate was Rs. 4·06 per acre, ranging from Rs. 9 for the best *goind* land to Re. 1·5 for *bhur*. The tenants are mainly of low caste, the most numerous being Chamars, Pasis and Ahirs; but there are many Brahmans and Rajputs. The two last pay lower rents, the privileged rate being about 20 per cent. less than for other castes. Muraos and Kurmis pay the most, the rates averaging Rs. 4·93 and Rs. 4·79 per acre respectively. The revenue at the summary assessment was Rs. 34,913, rising to Rs. 58,234 at the regular settlement. The present final demand is Rs. 76,715, of which all save Rs. 217 is actually realizable, giving an enhancement of 27 per cent. on the old revenue.

The population of the pargana in 1869 was 40,741, and since that date there has been a large increase, the total rising to 49,775 in 1881 and 55,812 ten years later. In 1901 a slight decrease was observed, owing to the famine of 1887, the number of inhabitants being 54,776 with an average density of 456 to the square mile. Musalmans numbered 8,706. There are no towns in the pargana, and except Pasgawan and Barwar no villages of any size or importance. Means of communication are fair. Through the south-west passes the metalled road from Sitapur to Shahjahanpur with one branch leading from Aurangabad through Barwar to Muhamdi, and another connecting Pasgawan with the tahsil headquarters. The north-west corner is traversed by the road from Muhamdi to Shahjahanpur, a portion of which near the Sukheta is metalled.

The pargana contains 164 villages, including three forest grants in the south-west. These are divided into 242 mahals, of which one is Government property, only 22 are owned by taluqdars, while 66 are held in single and 106 in joint zamindari, and

48 in pattidari tenure. Mahant Harcharan Das of Maswasi in Unao, owns the Gulrai estate of 14 whole villages; five villages and two mahals are held by the Raja of Partabgarh, and the village of Bankagaon by the Saiyid Rani of Shahpur. Saiyids hold 19 other villages, including five belonging to Tasadduq Husain of Aurangabad. Of the rest, 31 villages are owned by Nikumbhs, eleven by Gaurs, three by Gaharwars and one by Tomars; 24 by Brahmans, 25 by Kayasths, seven by Sheikhs and Pathans, and four each by Kurmis and Khattris. At the summary settlement of 1859 there were no less than 99 small zamindari estates in Pasgawan-Barwar, held by the representatives of the old proprietors with whom settlement was made after the dissolution of the great taluqa of the Saiyids. The pattidars are generally prosperous, but are usually behindhand in their payments, and have a bad reputation for lawlessness.

PHULBIHAR, *Pargana* SRINAGAR, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

A village on the west side of the road from Lakhimpur to Nighasan, lying in latitude 28° 4′ north and longitude 80° 48′ east, at a distance of about eight miles north of the district headquarters and thirteen miles from Nighasan. It is only deserving of mention as possessing a mud-built police-station, which stands in the west of the village near the bazar; markets are held in the latter twice a week. The place also contains a post-office, cattle-pound, and a lower primary school. Phulbihar forms part of the Mahewa estate and is assessed to a revenue of Rs. 1,625. It has an area of 2,263 acres, much of which is well cultivated: the north stands high and produces fair crops of cereals in the rabi and sugarcane in the kharif; the whole of the south is lowlying and is chiefly used for rice cultivation. Down the western half runs an old channel of the Chauka. The population at the last census numbered 1,785 souls, mainly Chamars, Kurmis and Musalmans.

PIPARIA, *Pargana* ATWA PIPARIA, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

The capital of the pargana is a fair sized village situated in latitude 28° 5′ north and longitude 80° 16′ east, on the Shahjahanpur border. It is connected by an unmetalled road with

Mamri on the road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi, and continuing westwards to Pawayan. From its position it is sometimes called Piparia Dhurai, or Piparia on the boundary; it is also known as Piparia Captain, from the fact that it formed part of a waste land grant given after the mutiny to Captain Fida Husain of the Oudh force. He sold all his estate subsequently, and it passed to Mr. L. D. Hearsey of Mamri, the present owner. The village lands cover 1,276 acres and are well cultivated in places; but the soil is in parts poor, especially to the south and west and much of it lies fallow every year. The place contains a small school, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The population, which is mainly agricultural, amounted to 895 persons at the last census. The village is assessed to a revenue of Rs. 550.

RAKHETI, *Pargana and Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A large village on the road from Palia to Matera, lying in latitude 28° 13′ north and longitude 80° 55′ east, at a distance of three miles south-east of Nighasan. It covers 3,470 acres, the central block consisting of an even stretch of lowlying rice land, while the outlying fields stand higher and bear good crops of maize. Besides the central site on the roadside there are many hamlets, with a total population of 2,403 souls at the last census. There is a small primary school here. The village forms part of the taluqa of the late Raj Gobardhan Singh, of the Jangre house of Bhur, and is assessed to a revenue of Rs. 2,950.

RAMIA BIHAR, *Pargana* DHAURAHRA, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A considerable village in the north of the pargana, standing in latitude 28° 8′ north and longitude 81° 2′ east, on the road from Nighasan to Matera on the Kauriala, at a distance of about 13 miles south-east of the tahsil headquarters. The place is picturesquely situated on the banks of an old channel of the Kauriala which has become silted up and forms an extensive lake. Close by is a bungalow erected by Rani Surat Kunwar, widow of Raja Indra Bikram Sah of Khairigarh, the proprietor of the village. The lands of Ramia Bihar are 2,599 acres in extent, and the upper portion in the south and centre consist of a good loam soil traversed by a winding watercourse. The revenue is Rs. 2,150,

The lower half to the north-east is liable to flooding; but is partially protected by a deep drainage channel excavated by the taluqdar. The village has grown considerably of late years and at the last census contained 2,143 inhabitants, of whom 371 were Musalmans. There is a small school here, and a bazar of some local importance in which markets are held twice a week.

SANSARPUR, *Pargana* KUKRA MAILANI, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

A good village on the road from Gola to Khutar, in latitude 28° 8′ north and longitude 80° 23′ east, at a distance of some seven miles north-west of Gola. It had in 1901 a population of 2,362 souls, of whom about one-fifth were Musalmans. It belongs to the Chauhan taluqdar of Kaimahra, who pays a revenue of Rs. 1,550, and who had spent large sums in improving the village by digging drains. The eastern portion consists of jungle, and between this and the cultivated land is a belt of high gritty soil or *bhur*. The population reside for the most part in a large central site, the remainder living in a fair-sized hamlet called Bujhia to the south. Markets are held here twice a week. The cattle-pound dates from March 1900.

SIKANDARABAD, *Pargana* HAIDARABAD, *Tahsil* MUHAMDI.

This village was the capital of a separate pargana until 1869, when it was united with Haidarabad. It lies in latitude 27° 57′ north and longitude 80° 29′ east, about half a mile to the north of the direct road from Lakhimpur to Muhamdi, some 18 miles west of the former and a mile east of the Sarayan. It had in 1901 a population of 2,269 persons, of whom a large proportion were Musalmans. The village lands cover 1,268 acres, and of this 1,126 acres are held in taluqdari tenure by Muhammad Sher Khan of Raipur, one of the converted Ahbans. The rest is held by Musalman zamindars of the same family who own four small mahals, while eleven acres are held in pattidari tenure by Brahmans and Kayasths. The total revenue of the village is Rs. 1,525. The soil is for the most part good loam; but the extremities lie low, especially in the north and west. To

the east there is a larger area of grove land. The village contains a post-office, a large upper primary school, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week.

SIMRI, *Pargana* Dhaurahra, *Tahsil* Nighasan.

A very large village situated in north latitude 28° 6′ and east longitude 81° 2′ on the road from Dhaurahra to Kardhaiya, where it joins that from Matera to Nighasan, at a distance of eight miles north-west of the town of Dhaurahra. The village lands cover no less than 5,508 acres, and are intersected in the south by the Sukhni river; to the east is the Malhia swamp. The upland portion is well cultivated by Muraos and Kurmis, who form the prevailing Hindu castes. The population at the last census numbered 3,069 souls, most of whom live in the main site, and the rest in many scattered hamlets. The village pays a revenue of Rs. 4,000 and is owned by the Jangre taluqdar of Isanagar. There is a small aided school here, but the place contains nothing of any interest and is only noticeable for its size.

SINGAHI BHADAURA, *Pargana* Khairigarh, *Tahsil* Nighasan.

This is the principal village in the pargana and lies in latitude 28° 18′ north and longitude 80° 54′ east on the road from Nighasan to Banbirpur and Nepal, at a distance of six miles north of the tahsil headquarters. From the village branch roads run to Khairigarh on the north-west and eastwards to Bharthapur ferry on the Kauriala. The place derives its double name from two detached sites, Bhadaura lying a short distance to the west of Singahi. The population in 1901 amounted to 5,928 persons, of whom 3,784 were Hindus, 1,503 Musalmans, and eleven others. Brahmans are the best represented Hindu caste. The village contains a dispensary, a large upper primary school, a cattle-pound, and a bazar in which markets are held twice a week. The village lands cover 2,623 acres and consist of a long and narrow strip, the southern half of which lies below the high bank of the Suheli and is for the most part inferior broken ground liable to flooding. The upper portion adjoining the

large village of Singahi stands high and is fairly cultivated. The revenue is Rs. 1,500. The place belongs to the Rani of Khairigarh, who has her residence here. Singahi has largely grown of late years, for at the first census of 1869 the population was only 3,499 persons. From 1801 to 1816 Khairigarh was under the British and a police-station was established here. In 1810 the lease of the pargana was taken by Captain Hearsey, who resided at this place till the Nepal war of 1812; the ruins of his bungalow are still to be seen near the village. Another European, one Mr. Carbery, a merchant, settled here about the same time, but was soon afterwards murdered by the Raja of Dhaurahra.

SINGHA, *Pargana* KHAIRIGARH, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A large and thickly populated village in the east of the pargana, lying in latitude 28° 19′ north and longitude 80° 56′ east, a mile and a half north-east of Singahi and a short distance east of the road to Banbirpur. It is one of the best villages of the uplands of this pargana, and is well cultivated by Kurmis and others. The area is 2,440 acres, most of which is cultivated. Along the northern boundary flows the Jauraha stream. The population numbered 3,434 persons at the last census, and reside in two large sites known as Singha Kalan and Singha Khurd. The place forms part of the Khairigarh estate and pays a revenue of Rs. 2,200.

SISAIYA, *Pargana* FIROZABAD, *Tahsil* NIGHASAN.

A large village three miles south-east of Dhaurahra, in latitude 27° 58′ north and longitude 81° 9′ east, at the junction of the roads from Matera and Dhaurahra to Isanagar. The population in 1901 was 1,726, which shows a considerable decline since the previous census, when it totalled 2,064. About one-fourth of the inhabitants are Musalmans, while Lodhs form the prevailing Hindu caste. They chiefly live in the central site; but there are several small hamlets. The village lands are traversed in the south-west by the Dahawar, in the neighbourhood of which is some inferior waste; the rest is well cultivated and bears good crops of maize. The total area is 3,422 acres, and the revenue

Rs. 2,600. The place belongs to the Jangre taluqdar of Isanagar. There is a small aided school here.

SRINAGAR, *Pargana* SRINAGAR, *Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This village, which gives its name to the pargana, is a place of little importance, lying in latitude 28° 6′ north and longitude 80° 47′ east, about a mile to the west of the road from Lakhimpur to Nighasan, at a distance of eleven miles north of the former, three miles from the police-station of Phulbihar, and two miles south of the Chauka. Srinagar was formerly a much larger place and the headquarters of the Musalman Bisens, who had a brick fort here. The village was almost wholly destroyed by a flood on the Chauka some 70 years ago. The old bed of the river lies to the east of the village with extensive stretches of high grass jungle on either side. The village lands cover 2,390 acres, but the cultivated area is small; there is a fair block of cultivation round the main site, chiefly on the west. To the north the soil is light and poor. The village is purely agricultural and contained at the last census a population of 1,000 persons, of whom 231 were Musalmans; Ahirs are the chief Hindu caste. There is a small school here, but nothing else of any importance. The revenue of the village is Rs. 1,150 and the proprietor is the Chauhan taluqdar of Mahewa.

SRINAGAR *Pargana, Tahsil* LAKHIMPUR.

This large pargana forms the eastern portion of the tahsil, being the south-eastern continuation of Bhur. Like that pargana, it lies between the Chauka and Ul rivers, the former separating it from Dhaurahra on the north and east, while the latter constitutes the boundary between Srinagar and Kheri on the south-west. In the south-eastern corner the Ul bends northwards to join the old bed of the Chauka, and here for a short distance the pargana marches with the Sitapur district. The physical characteristics of the pargana are somewhat varied. Along the Ul there is a narrow strip of low lying *tarai,* which is flooded during the rains; the soil is mainly clay and of an inferior character. Beyond this a belt of high soil runs parallel to the river with an average width of about three miles; it resembles the highlying

lands of Kheri, to which it formerly belonged, but its character is no so good. The soil is a fair loam. The rest of the pargana is of a very poor description, generally precarious and always unhealthy. The country is scored with old channels of the Chauka and with numerous watercourses, such as the Kandwa, Kandhai and Junai *nalas*. About 1830 the Chauka caused a great change in the general aspect of this tract; it left its usual channel and instead adopted a small backwater that ran to the east and south of Srinagar and entered the Kandwa near Mahewa. The result was that not only were these two large and flourishing villages destroyed, but also an area of some fifty square miles was submerged and utterly ruined. About thirty years later the river returned to its old channel. The deserted bed, as well as the many other watercourses, is marked by a stretch of barren sandy soil, locally called *tapar*, which dries up very quickly and produces but poor crops. Generally the soil in the north of the pargana is a light loam, varied by clay in the depressions. The whole is almost entirely dependent on the rainfall; but as the pargana is mainly held by large proprietors, the really precarious villages are few. The worst are Sitlapur, Chaphandi and Parsia in the south centre near Mahewa, Dudhwa near Phulbihar, Basaigapur in the extreme north-west, and Bhurkunda in the north-east. The mahals along the Chauka in the south-east are classed as alluvial, and are assessed under special terms of settlement.

The area of the pargana has from time to time been subject to great variations, both by the action of the Chauka and otherwise. At the first regular settlement an exchange was made of several villages of Dhaurahra which lay on this side of the Chauka for a portion of Srinagar which extended beyond that river; and at the same time the high lands along the Ul were transferred to this pargana from Kheri. The area at the first regular settlement was 144,386 acres or 225 square miles, of which 51 per cent. was cultivated. In 1904 the total area was 142,824 acres or 223 square miles, and the land under the plough was 84,119 acres or 58·8 per cent., 22,073 acres bearing a double crop. The development of the pargana has been fairly steady, as the average cultivation from 1884 to 1895 was 81,959 acres, and the only notable variations occurred after the floods and cholera epidemic

of 1894 and during the famine two years later. Since the last settlement progress has been more rapid and the figures of 1904 are the highest on record. In the latter year the culturable area was 42,836 acres; this included 3,162 acres under groves and 26,454 acres of fallow, mostly of old standing. Much of the so-called culturable waste is very poor and would hardly repay tillage. The barren area is mainly under water or occupied by roads and buildings, the actually unculturable land being only 1,453 acres. There is but little irrigation as it is either not needed or not obtainable. The total amount watered in 1904 was only 6·7 per cent. of the cultivation, and even this is above the average. The kharif harvest covers a far larger area than the rabi. The chief crops are rice, kodon, and maize in the former, with a fair amount of urd and sugarcane. In the rabi, wheat takes the lead, but is closely followed by barley; there is also much gram cultivation, but the area under garden crops is small save in the south-east corner.

The cultivation is fair in the old Kheri portion of the pargana, owing to the presence of many Kurmi tenants; but elsewhere it is less a question of cultivation than of rainfall. In the south-east, between Jagsarh and Raulia, there is a fair number of Muraos, who have raised the standard of husbandry to a higher pitch than might be expected in a pargana so devoid of natural advantages. The most numerous tenants are Kurmis, followed by Ahirs, Chamars, Brahmans, Musalmans and Muraos. Rents are mainly paid in kind, the cash-rented area being at the settlement only one-third of the whole. The average rate was then Rs. 4·35 per acre, for low caste tenants being Rs. 4·5 and for high caste Rs. 3·62. The highest rents are paid by Muraos and Kurmis. The revenue of the pargana at the summary settlement was Rs. 49,855, and this was raised at the regular assessment to Rs. 79,138, after the alterations in the boundary. At the last settlement the final demand was fixed at Rs. 95,839, giving an enhancement of 17 per cent. on the expiring revenue. This includes Rs. 1,995 paid on alluvial mahals assessed conditionally for the full term, and Rs. 1,020 on other alluvial mahals treated under the ordinary rules. The net revenue for the ordinarily settled portion is Rs. 92,426.

The population of the pargana at the last census numbered 90,116 souls, giving an average density of 404 persons to the square mile. Classified by religions there were 77,400 Hindus, 12,707 Musalmans, the majority of whom are Julahas, and nine others. There has been but a slight increase during the past thirty years: in 1881 the total was 88,499, and at the following enumeration 92,277; the subsequent decline having been very marked. It is probable, however, that ensuing years will show a rapid recovery, as the decrease was due to a succession of seasonal calamities. The pargana contains no towns, but there are several villages with large populations, such as Baragaon, Phulbihar and Atkohna. Means of communication are poor, as in all the parganas north of the Ul. Three roads lead from Lakhimpur to Nighasan, Dhaurahra, and Khairigarh; but the last of these is impassable during the rains, though at other times in fair order.

There are altogether 146 villages in the pargana, divided into 165 mahals. Of the latter, 140 are owned by taluqdars, 16 by single zamindars, eight are held in joint zamindari, and one in pattidari tenure. There are no Musalman landowners. The chief proprietors are the Chauhans, who hold 129 villages, while next to them come Kayasths with eleven, Surajbansis with three, Sikhs with two, and Kurmis with one. The Raja of Oel owns 68 villages; the Rani of Mahewa has 59 villages and one mahal; and the Rani of Kaimahra two villages. The Rani of Khairigarh owns the Dubela estates of three villages and the Kurmi taluqdar of Paila the single village of Sakhetu. The Chauhans estates are all of comparatively recent origin, having been forcibly acquired between 1819 and 1830 with the aid of the revenue officials of the day. The history of these taluqas has been already given in Chapter III.

GAZETTEER

OF

KHERI.

APPENDIX.

GAZETTEER

OF

KHERI.

APPENDIX.

CONTENTS.

Table I.—*Population by Tahsils*, 1901.

Tahsíl.	Total.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Muhamdi	257,989	136,887	121,102	223,133	118,576	104,557	34,540	18,145	16,395	316	166	150
Nighasan	281,123	148,133	132,990	245,117	128,834	116,283	35,873	19,196	16,677	133	103	30
Lakhimpur	366,026	193,609	172,417	312,409	165,313	147,096	53,289	28,119	25,170	328	177	151
Total ...	905,138	478,629	426,509	780,659	412,723	367,936	123,702	65,460	58,242	777	446	331

TABLE II.—*Population by thanas*, 1901.

Serial number.	Name of thana.	Total population.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
		Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.
1	Bhira ...	47,857	25,683	22,174	43,511	23,252	20,259	4,335	2,423	1,912	11	8	3
2	Dhaurahra ...	74,740	38,710	36,030	64,278	33,252	31,026	10,453	5,453	5,000	9	5	4
3	Gola ...	102,599	54,385	48,214	88,988	47,276	41,712	13,521	7,056	6,465	91	53	38
4	Isanagar ...	70,008	36,466	33,542	62,382	32,470	29,912	7,593	3,975	3,618	33	21	12
5	Lakhimpur ...	150,265	79,113	71,152	123,907	65,368	58,539	26,151	13,636	12,515	207	109	98
6	Muhamdi ...	72,151	38,339	33,812	61,029	32,539	28,490	11,071	5,767	5,304	51	33	18
7	Mitauli ...	73,064	38,690	34,374	66,605	35,248	31,357	6,422	3,428	2,994	37	14	23
8	Nimgaon ...	69,481	36,601	32,880	59,298	31,199	28,099	10,177	5,399	4,778	6	3	3
9	Nighasan ...	103,754	54,700	49,054	90,031	47,288	42,743	13,694	7,392	6,302	28	20	8
10	Palia ...	31,610	17,726	13,884	27,475	15,330	12,145	4,073	2,339	1,734	62	57	5
11	Phulbihar ...	51,090	27,108	23,982	43,654	23,170	20,484	7,393	3,914	3,479	43	24	19
12	Pasgawan ...	58,519	31,108	27,411	49,501	26,331	23,170	8,819	4,678	4,141	199	99	100
	Total ...	905,138	478,629	426,509	780,659	412,723	367,936	123,702	65,460	58,242	777	446	331

TABLE III.—*Vital Statistics.*

Year.	Births.				Deaths.			
	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Rate per 1,000.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1891 ...	31,985	17,013	14,972	35·40	22,817	12,563	10,254	25·25
1892 ...	34,229	18,102	16,127	37·88	34,854	19,205	15,649	38·57
1893 ...	39,232	20,581	18,651	43·42	27,753	14,932	12,821	30·71
1894 ...	35,088	18,209	16,879	38·83	48,030	25,820	22,210	53·15
1895 ...	33,505	17,343	16,162	37·07	40,245	21,537	18,708	44 54
1896 ...	24,337	12,631	11,706	26 93	39,601	21,533	18,068	43 82
1897 ...	32,554	16,723	15,831	36 03	30,961	16,911	14,050	34·26
1898 ..	40,909	20,939	19,970	45 27	26,683	14,185	12,498	29·53
1899 ...	44,700	23,006	21,694	49 47	32,626	17,383	15,243	36·11
1900 ...	40,337	20,768	19,569	44·64	26,117	13,913	12,204	28·90*
1901 ...	42,331	21,663	20,668	46·76	29,287	15,274	14,013	32·36
1902 ...	46,534	23,974	22,560	51·41	31,468	16,544	14,924	34·76
1903 ...	46,195	24,089	22,106	51·03	42,121	21,826	20,295	46·53
1904 ...	47,847	25,057	22,790	52·86	29,509	15,050	14,459	32·60
1905 ...								
1906 ...								
1907 ...								
1908 ...								
1909 ...								
1910 ...								
1911 ...								
1912 ...								
1913 ...								
1914 ...								

*The rates from 1891 to 1900 are calculated from the returns of 1891 census.

TABLE IV.—*Deaths according to cause.*

Year.	Total deaths from— All causes.	Plague.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Bowel complaints.
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1891	22,817	...	1,421	187	20,335	66
1892	34,854	...	6,095	392	27,297	64
1893	27,753	...	415	1,155	24,477	81
1894	48,030	...	5,347	780	39,906	76
1895	40,245	...	701	270	37,947	71
1896	39,601	...	1,521	453	36,134	81
1897	30,961	...	1,058	1,541	25,677	143
1898	26,683	...	209	117	24,113	72
1899	32,626	...	129	59	30,247	28
1900	26,117	...	181	...	24,018	11
1901	29,287	..	1,601	1	25,701	6
1902	31,468	...	376	3	28,131	17
1903	42,121	10	1,052	74	32,904	40
1904	29,509	497	59	577	24, 26	22
1905						
1906						
1907						
1908						
1909						
1910						
1911						
1912						
1913						
1914						

TABLE V.—*Statistics of cultivation and irrigation,* 1311 *Fasli.*

Pargana and tahsíl.	Total area.	Waste.	Culturable.	Cultivated. Irrigated. Total.	Wells.	Tanks.	Other sources.	Dry.	Total.	Double-cropped.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Bhur	193,154	21,689	70,891	14,974	12,151	2,706	117	85,600	100,574	14,018
Paila	65,147	6,381	14,925	11,218	5,578	5,030	610	32,623	43,841	8,354
Srinagar	142,824	15,869	42,836	5,696	2,953	2,319	424	78,423	84,119	22,073
Kukra Mailani	66,796	3,938	40,412	1,760	1,269	491	...	20,686	22,446	4,598
Kheri	121,412	12,287	21,518	15,052	3,506	10,708	838	72,555	87,607	18,328
Tahsil Lakhimpur ...	589,333	60,164	190,582	48,700	25,457	21,254	1,989	289,887	338,587	67,371
Atwa Piparia	41,033	1,747	20,310	3,000	2,650	342	8	15,976	18,976	1,149
Aurangabad	69,715	4,884	18,461	7,860	6,294	989	577	38,510	46,370	3,048
Pasgawan	76,803	5,286	20,718	16,253	10,640	4,832	781	34,546	50,799	7,462
Haidarabad	61,753	5,386	15,809	10,538	6,756	3,495	287	30,020	40,558	8,098
Kasta	59,440	3,749	22,567	8,712	6,376	1,978	358	24,412	33,124	6,151
Muhamdi	73,208	5,106	19,318	16,059	10,036	5,306	717	32,725	48,784	7,610
Magdapur	34,537	1,590	11,905	1,158	1,013	109	36	19,884	21,042	694
Tahsil Muhamdi ...	416,489	27,748	129,088	63,580	43,765	17,051	2,764	196,073	259,653	34,212
Palia	68,837	8,531	50,313	...	...	...	...	9,993	9,993	1,464
Dhaurahra	175,527	27,158	52,281	135	79	51	5	95,953	96,088	24,678
Firozabad	110,015	18,860	31,648	146	123	9	14	59,361	59,507	19,415
Khairigarh	117,853	11,360	59,636	7	3	3	1	46,850	46,857	11,406
Nighasan	149,971	16,207	64,935	109	93	16	..	68,720	68,829	12,757
Tahsil Nighasan ...	622,203	82,116	258,813	397	298	79	20	280,877	281,274	69,720
Total ...	1,628,025	170,028	578,483	112,677	69,520	38,384	4,773	766,837	879,514	171,303
Reserved Forest	268,432*	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...
District Total ...	1,896,457	170,028	578,483	112,677	69,520	38,384	4,773	766,837	879,514	171,303

* 98,589 acres in Lakhimpur tahsíl, and 169,843 in Nighasan.

TABLE VI.—*Area in acres under the principal crops, tahsîl Lakhimpur.*

Year.	Rabi.						Kharif.						
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat mixed.	Barley alone and mixed.	Linseed and rape.	Gram and peas.	Total.	Maize.	Rice.	Juar and bajra.	Urd, mung and moth.	Kodon.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
1307	139,594	44,602	25,677	23,551	3,016	36,461	223,230	11,609	98,789	4,587	43,556	38,595	18,330
1308	*...	...	...	...	...	...	229,125	18,070	95,310	7,568	41,605	35,142	21,382
1309	172,058	57,423	28,742	24,717	5,078	49,486	235,062	22,923	49,739	11,162	40,016	40,577	23,534
1310	178,714	66,901	27,129	18,192	8,542	52,840	226,559	22,813	82,718	9,059	38,600	47,996	14,210
1311	181,873	81,441	27,076	20,689	8,116	39,515	223,344	30,163	63,059	11,569	43,237	46,450	16,924
1312													
1313													
1314													
1315													
1316													
1317													
1318													
1319													
1320													
1321													

* No figures available on account of census operations.

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, tahsil Muhamdi.*

Year.	Rabi.						Kharif.						
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat mixed.	Barley alone and mixed.	Linseed and rape.	Gram and peas.	Total.	Maize.	Rice.	Juar and bajra.	Urd, mung and moth.	Kodon.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
1307	116,881	42,212	19,472	25,360	579	27,543	126,077	84	46,143	15,965	26,600	3,889	15,164
1308	*...	...	...	...	...	...	136,736	151	44,000	20,193	23,762	4,553	17,945
1309	151,377	50,016	20,657	32,049	1,170	45,326	136,600	152	43,366	21,175	24,595	4,754	16,338
1310	158,160	56,327	21,560	31,485	2,199	44,662	137,154	172	41,394	21,414	29,483	5,903	11,506
1311	157,035	62,132	20,648	34,424	2,102	35,965	136,448	98	27,883	26,138	33,566	5,709	13,679
1312													
1313													
1314													
1315													
1316													
1317													
1318													
1319													
1320													
1321													

* No figures available on account of census operations.

TABLE VI—(concluded).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, tahsil Nighasan.*

Year.	Rabi.						Kharíf.						
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat mixed.	Barley alone and mixed.	Linseed and rape.	Gram and peas.	Total.	Maize.	Rice.	Juar and bajra.	Urd, mung and moth.	Kodon.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
1307	90,373	17,246	20,106	27,965	9,315	8,239	200,492	45,966	82,458	5,401	17,498	44,349	1,309
1308	*	...	...	...	...	...	230,756	71,898	86,971	9,203	14,279	42,517	1,388
1309	106,813	18,837	26,826	28,825	13,459	11,312	236,014	87,855	75,555	11,454	12,702	42,058	1,298
1310	105,746	21,661	24,420	17,954	20,329	14,426	215,759	78,109	65,821	7,702	11,702	46,063	1,058
1311	129,546	37,702	28,416	20,645	19,279	16,103	219,235	102,618	56,260	9,881	11,623	33,384	803
1312													
1313													
1314													
1315													
1316													
1317													
1318													
1319													
1320													
1321													

* No figures available on account of census operations.

TABLE VII—*Criminal justice.*

Year.	Number of persons convicted or bound over in respect of—												Cases under—	
	Offences against public tranquillity, Chapter VIII.	Offences affecting life.	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Cattle theft.	Criminal force and assault.	Theft.	Robbery and dacoity.	Receiving stolen property.	Criminal trespass.	Bad livelihood.	Keeping the peace.	Opium Act.	Excise Act.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1896 ...	86	38	48	2	47	12	583	58	116	1	94	33	3	17
1897 ...	62	34	30	2	50	22	463	82	150	...	110	69	3	18
1898 ...	115	44	92	2	23	20	187	49	58	2	11	11	1	16
1899 ...	83	33	34	4	21	13	285	34	67	...	72	18	4	10
1900 ...	80	29	48	2	15	11	222	14	72	...	87	33	8	12
1901 ...	73	12	25	...	...	20	168	5	35	99	31	14	2	12
1902 ...	56	11	23	...	2	15	114	5	27	92	101	50	2	7
1903 ...	56	9	37	2	...	30	178	...	80	87	114	...	10	6
1904 ...	96	10	21	...	...	57	229	4	34	145	111	10	3	6
1905 ...														
1906 ...														
1907 ...														
1908 ...														
1909 ...														
1910 ...														
1911 ...														
1912 ...														
1913 ...														
1914 ...														

TABLE VIII.—*Cognizable crime.*

Year.	Number of cases investigated by police—			Number of persons—		
	Suo motu.	By orders of Magistrate.	Sent up for trial.	Tried.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.
1	2*	3*	4	5	6	7
1896	2,324	48	1,323	2,022	344	1,678
1897	2,488	...	1,327	2,143	426	1,711
1898	1,426	1	692	1,163	270	879
1899	1,611	...	859	1,276	363	889
1900	1,745	2	824	1,195	306	850
1901	1,369	1	619	888	245	601
1902	1,381	2	616	1,018	360	600
1903	1,691	...	722	1,073	236	783
1904	1,489	1	850	1,307	344	916
1905						
1906						
1907						
1908						
1909						
1910						
1911						
1912						
1913						

* Columns 2 and 3 should show cases instituted during the year.

TABLE IX.—*Revenue demand at successive settlements.*

Pargana.	Year of settlement.				
	1859.	1868—71.	1872—76 (revision).	1898-1901.	Alluvial mahals, 1901.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bhur	36,703	117,653	73,075	98,233	525
Paila	32,248	57,915	45,618	60,048	...
Srinagar	49,855	120,125	79,138	92,426	3,015
Kukra Mailani ...	8,713	27,560	9,432	23,437	...
Kheri	79,424	144,266	1,21,037	1,48,563	...
Total Tahsil Lakhimpur	206,943	467,519	3,28,300	4,22,707	3,540
Atwa Piparia ...	7,715	15,000	7,593	11,405	...
Aurangabad ...	22,401	36,780	33,860	43,585	...
Pasgawan ...	34,913	60,705	58,234	76,498	...
Haidarabad ...	30,208	49,459	36,740	53,077	...
Kasta	22,401	37,375	37,306	49,185	...
Muhami	37,362	71,086	55,237	62,216	...
Magdapur... ...	5,064	15,544	10,984	11,860	...
Total Tahsil Muhamdi,	160,064	285,949	2,39,954	3,07,826	...
Palia	12,333	38,780	10,523	9,630	336
Dhaurahra ...	37,142	139,655	81,325	101,840	3,490
Firozabad... ...	32,384	100,519	55,305	67,310	575
Khairigarh ...	17,386	61,600	23,439	31,430	...
Nighasan	26,615	94,645	63,565	73,311	800
Total Tahsil Nighasan,	126,865	435,199	2,34,157	2,83,521	5,201
Total District ...	493,872	11,88,667	8,02,411	10,14,054*	8,741

* Net sum realizable.

TABLE X.—*Present demand for revenue and cesses, 1311 Fasli.*

Pargana and tahsil.	Where included in *Ain-i-Akbari*.	Revenue.	Cesses.	Total.	Incidence per acre— Cultivated.	Incidence per acre— Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Bhur	Bhurwara	93,268	15,321	1,08,589	1 1 3	0 9 0
Paila	Paila, Bhurwara	57,463	9,456	66,919	1 8 5	1 0 5
Srinagar	Kheri	95,350	15,362	1,10,712	1 5 1	0 12 4
Kukra Mailani	Bhurwara	13,722	3,564	17,286	0 12 3	0 4 2
Kheri	Kheri, Basara	1,48,855	24,312	1,73,167	1 15 8	1 6 9
Tahsil Lakhimpur ...	...	4,08,658	68,015	4,76,673	1 6 6	0 12 11
Atwa Piparia	Barwar Anjana	10,505	1,753	12,258	0 10 4	0 4 9
Aurangabad	Barwar Anjana	41,004	7,039	48,043	1 0 7	0 11 0
Pasgawan	Barwar Anjana	72,628	11,783	84,411	1 11 7	1 1 7
Haidarabad	Bhurwara	51,277	8,403	59,680	1 7 6	0 15 5
Kasta	Nimkhar	46,890	7,856	54,746	1 10 5	0 14 9
Muhamdi	Barwar Anjana	61,606	10,090	71,696	1 7 9	0 15 8
Magdapur	Barwar Anjana	11,941	1,927	13,868	0 10 6	0 6 5
Tahsil Muhamdi ...	...	2,95,851	48,851	3,44,702	1 5 3	0 13 3
Palia	Bhurwara and Khairigarh ...	10,566	1,691	12,257	1 3 7	0 2 10
Dhaurahra	Khairigarh and Firozabad ...	1,01,120	16,351	1,17,471	1 3 6	0 10 8
Firozabad	Firozabad	66,385	10,623	77,008	1 4 8	0 11 2
Khairigarh	Khairigarh	29,230	4,677	33,907	0 11 7	0 4 7
Nighasan	Bhurwara	73,761	12,106	85,867	1 3 11	0 9 2
Tahsil Nighasan ...	...	2,81,062	45,448	3,26,510	1 2 7	0 8 5
District Total	...	9,85,571	1,62,314	11,47,885	1 4 10	0 11 3

TABLE XI.—*Excise.*

Year.	Receipts from foreign liquors.	Country spirit. Receipts.	Country spirit. Consumption in gallons.	Receipts from *tári* and *sendhi*.	Drugs. Total receipts.	Drugs. Consumption in maunds of— *Gánja.*	Drugs. Consumption in maunds of— *Charas.*	Opium. Total receipts.	Opium. Consumption.	Total receipts.	Total charges.	Incidence of receipts per 10,000 of population from— Liquor including *tári.*	Incidence … Drugs.	Incidence … Opium.	Number of shops for sale of— Country spirit.	Number of shops … Drugs.	Number of shops … Opium.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Mds. s.	Mds. s.	Rs.	Mds. s.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
1890-91 ...	...	40,723	13,269	...	8,458	Not available.		12,991	26 7	62,211	1,383	415	94	144	184	52	17
1891-92 ...	48	31,444	9,888	...	10,342	Ditto.		13,648	27 8	55,537	1,183	348	114	151	186	52	19
1892-93 ...	...	28,508	10,074	...	11,000	83 0	18 5	15,133	29 1	54,642	2,543	315	121	167	178	53	19
1893-94 ...	...	28,492	10,775	...	11,000	...	49 9	14,657	25 23	54,148	658	494	121	162	174	53	21
1894-95 ...	...	24,450	8,938	...	13,450	5 26	54 15	13,100	22 32	51,000	360	418	149	145	180	56	25
1895-96 ...	...	22,206	5,477	61	12,808	7 0	43 34	10,784	20 27	45,861	89	337	142	119	179	64	27
1896-97 ...	...	15,360	5,559	57	10,916	36 0	30 25	9,305	19 19	35,669	186	263	121	103	164	65	27
1897-98 ...	...	17,147	9,741	37	10,551	2 7	48 22	11,068	23 18	38,450	75	352	117	122	142	65	27
1898-99 ...	20	19,777	13,841	24	13,650	...	63 31	12,509	27 39	45,986	24	469	214	145	134	65	27
1899-1900 ..	156	29,563	12,952	18	17,000	...	60 29	14,005	28 4	60,753	499	556	299	158	133	65	27
1900-1901...	192	59,759	17,702	19	31,032	...	75 8	15,538	30 20	1,06,568	718	662	343	172	133	66	26
1901-1902 ..	192	77,744	20,855	25	33,164	...	88 21	17,460	36 1	1,29,592	355	866	368	194	133	66	26
1902-1903...	192	91,358	19,018	50	31,968	...	81 2	18,840	35 0	1,42,410	16	1,018	355	209	133	75	26
1903-1904...	192	88,866	18,171	25	40,452	...	43 22	19,562	36 16	1,49,132	59	990	449	212	133	81	26
1904-1905...																	
1905-1906...																	
1906-1907...																	
1907-1908...																	
1908-1909...																	
1909-1910...																	
1910-1911...																	
1911-1912 ..																	
1912-1913...																	

TABLE XII.—*Stamps.*

Year.	Receipts from— Non-Judicial.	Court fee including copies.	All sources.	Total charges.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	17,632	36,221	53,942	1,435
1891-92	16,520	38,073	55,027	1,499
1892-93	16,947	38,987	56,071	752
1893-94	15,848	39,803	55,775	1,190
1894-95	15,364	36,724	52,144	976
1895-96	14,382	43,330	58,265	702
1896-97	15,386	41,646	57,081	597
1897-98	13,194	45,190	58,436	850
1898-99 ...	16,901	47,093	68,677	1,419
1899-1900 ...	15,120	52,656	67,888	773
1900-1901 ...	15,208	56,890	72,957	829*
1901-1902	16,127	57,277	74,278	1,298
1902-1903	17,971	55,511	74,360	1,363
1903-1904	16,670	54,857	72,377	1,386
1904-1905				
1905-1906				
1906-1907				
1907-1908				
1908-1909				
1909-10				
1910-11				
1911-12				
1912-13				

* Discount only.

Table XIII.—*Income-tax.*

Year.	Total receipts.	Collected by companies.		Profits of companies.		Other sources, Part IV.*				Total charges.	Objections under Part IV.	
						Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.				
		Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.		Number filed.	Wholly or partly successful.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		
1890-91	15.332	10	225	...	...	576	...	...	12,087	263	Not available	
1891-92	15,155	8	185	...	...	559	...	...	11,898	240	Ditto.	
1892-93	15,813	8	179	...	...	604	...	...	12.370	343	Ditto.	
1893-94	16,110	9	181	...	...	614	...	...	12,304	240	139	49
1894-95	16,344	17	689	...	...	616	...	...	12,776	157	146	72
1895-96	18,915	21	865	...	...	660	9,611	43	5,701	313	231	92
1896-97	19,556	17	1,050	...	...	668	9,529	50	6,208	103	279	121
1897-98	20,423	17	951	...	...	679	9,846	51	6,264	15	274	112
1898-99	22,169	18	921	...	...	679	10,010	59	7,944	...	211	36
1899-1900	24,015	16	858	...	...	778	11,522	66	8,471	30	254	60
1900-1901	24,660	16	880	...	...	868	12,991	60	7,761	186	293	112
1901-1902	24,734	21	1,259	...	...	832	12,369	63	8,262	78	246	95
1902-1903	24,122	21	1,229	...	...	828	12,402	57	7.406	35	146	55
1903-1904	17,067	20	895	...	...	215	5,453	61	7,953	232	97	27
1904-1905												
1905-1906												
1906-1907												
1907-1908												
1908-1909												
1909-10												
1910-11												
1911-12												
1912-13												

* Separate figures of assessees and tax for incomes under Rs. 2,000 and over Rs. 2,000 are not available till 1894-95.

TABLE XIV.—*Income-tax by tahsils (Part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Lakhimpur.				Year.	Tahsil Muhamdi.				Year.	Tahsil Nighasan.			
	Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.			Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs 2,000.			Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.	
	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.		Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.		Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.			Rs.		Rs.			Rs.		Rs.
1899-1900	376	5,248	34	4,355	1896-97...	229	3,302	18	1,982	1896-97...	165	2,440	4	778
1900-1901	401	5,658	37	4,145	1897-98...	218	3,104	14	1,690	1897-98...	161	2,378	5	939
1901-1902	381	5,200	41	4,440	1898-99...	194	2,929	21	2,430	1898-99...	161	2,442	7	1,143
1902-1903	399	5,583	30	4,026	1899-1900	201	3,267	22	2,670	1899-1900	204	2,997	11	1,476
1903-1904	87	2,145	32	4,527	1900-1901	199	3,411	18	2,196	1900-1901	256	3,777	12	1,692
1904-1905					1901-1902	198	3,440	18	2,118	1901-1902	249	3,559	12	1,672
1905-1906					1902-1903	184	3,213	17	1,860	1902 1903	242	3,438	13	1,608
1906-1907					1903-1904	72	1,915	15	1,810	1903-1904	56	1,393	14	1,616
1907-1908					1904-1905					1904-1905				
1908-1909					1905-1906					1905-1906				
1909-10					1906-1907					1906-1907				
1910-11...					1907-1908					1907-1908				
1911-12...					1908-1909					1908-1909				
1912-13...					1909-1910					1909-10...				
					1910-11					1910-11...				
					1911-12...					1911-12...				
					1912-13					1912-13...				
					1913-14...									

Table XV.—*District Board.*

Year.	Receipts.							Expenditure.										
	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Ferries.	Total expenditure.	Contributions to Provincial funds.	General administration.	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Debt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91 ...	3,552	1,641	...	184	31	4,751	...	59,612	...	1,192	19,311	7,964	...	477	30,668	...	...
1891-92 ...	3,973	1,902	...	247	...	6,921	...	56,301	...	1,173	19,076	8,568	..	456	27,028	...	...
1892-93 ...	4,021	2,047	...	121	...	6,321	...	51,753	...	1,209	19,045	8,855	150	432	22,062	...	...
1893-94 ...	4,186	2,162	...	144	...	7,008	...	56,122	...	1,229	20,171	7,885	...	435	26,402	...	...
1894-95 ...	4,038	1,904	..	241	...	6,449	..	49,380	...	1,133	20,745	8,276	...	358	18,868	...	...
1895-96 ...	4,283	1,966	...	201	127	6,760	...	59,017	..	1,195	20,846	8,057	...	156	28,763	...	...
1896-97 ...	4,624	1,935	...	140	124	3,984	...	58,623	...	1,159	20,948	8,319	...	155	28,042	..	...
1897-98 ...	4,914	2,163	...	523	278	4,657	9,608	61,843	1,189	1,137	22,651	7,597	...	...	29,269	...	...
1898-99 ..	5,669	2,177	...	523	508	5,882	13,980	60,595	..	1,506	24,193	8,432	202	...	25,822	...	..
1899-1900...	5,440	2,106	...	537	13,014	* 9,518	12,278	75,017	...	1,770	25,568	8,027	338	...	36,395	...	440
1900-1901...	6,362	2,261	...	3,151	583	10,584	†16,179	79,788	...	1,673	27,643	7,347	337	89	36,875	2,904	15
1901-1902...	6,243	2,259	...	126	1,667	12,097	15,516	85,604	...	1,626	28,321	7,534	396	112	40,964	3,624	2,200
1902-1903...	6,491	2,287	...	763	1,662	17,710	14,776	1,13,620	...	1,799	31,991	8,333	447	116	64,714	4,451	2,200
1903-1904...	6,073	1,978	...	187	315	18,441	19,454	1,10,787	...	2,165	35,052	7,646	460	41	57,782	5,520	700
1904-1905...																6,141	1,500
1905-1906...																	
1906-1907...																	
1907-1908...																	
1908-1909...																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ..																	
1913-14 ...																	

* Formerly net receipts only were shown. From this year receipts and also expenditure are given.

† From this year the gross receipts from ferries were for the first time credited to the District Board.

TABLE XVI.—*Municipality of Lakhimpur.*

Year.	Income.							Expenditure.									
	Octroi.	Tax on houses and lands.	Other taxes.	Rents.	Loans.	Other sources.	Total.	Administration and collection of taxes.	Public safety.	Water supply and drainage.		Conservancy.	Hospitals and Dispensaries.	Public Works.	Public Instruction.	Other heads.	Total.
										Capital.	Maintenance.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91 ...	...	1,687	1,225	1,462	...	2,299	6,673	882	811	...	...	1,389	320	2,674	120	920	7,116
1891-92 ...	...	1,766	1,220	1,604	...	2,324	6,914	533	773	...	...	1,482	240	1,437	221	1,668	6,354
1892-93 ...	...	1,940	1,256	1,785	...	2,651	7,632	626	815	368	206	2,607	240	706	320	1,799	7,687
1893-94 ...	...	1,855	5,890	2,366	2,000	2,514	14,625	597	1,046	440	58	1,594	120	479	220	2,827	7,381
1894-95 ...	...	1,914	874	3,252	...	2,317	8,357	855	1,038	466	163	2,737	120	2,274	220	4,264	12,137
1895-96 ...	...	2,041	6,009	3,500	...	3,078	14,628	810	1,167	152	109	2,022	120	2,478	257	2,048	9,163
1896-97 ...	...	2,138	2,747	3,193	...	3,443	11,521	712	1,456	2,114	1,960	3,289	240	3,357	220	1,230	14,578
1897-98 ...	...	2,242	4,259	3,333	...	3,446	13,280	1,207	1,594	1,523	881	3,357	240	6,282	220	2,354	17,658
1898-99 ...	...	2,474	7,053	4,262	...	4,295	18,084	1,558	1,444	25	197	2,614	240	1,382	577	2,449	10,486
1899-1900	...	2,913	5,553	5,501	...	5,633	19,600	1,584	1,605	171	224	2,831	240	2,271	394	1,596	10,916
1900-1901	...	2,901	6,912	5,4[illegible]	...	6,164	21,447	2,376	2,497	557	720	4,035	334	5,854	910	16,161	33,444
1901-1902	...	3,404	5,574	7,763	...	4,540	21,281	2,198	3,135	3,000	412	4,664	334	8,395	1,086	1,843	25,067
1902-1903	...	2,765	3,275	7,820	...	4,569	18,429	2,774	4,816	589	348	3,432	378	2,935	1,053	2,094	18,419
1903-1904	...	3,053	2,468	5,908	...	7,297	18,726	2,026	3,522	810	2,028	4,559	...	2,183	761	4,742	20,631
1904-1905																	
1905-1906																	
1906-1907																	
1907-1908																	
1908-1909																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	
1913-14 ...																	

Table XVI.—*Municipality of Muhamdi.**

Year.	Income.							Expenditure.									
	Octroi.	Tax on houses and lands.	Other taxes.	Rents.	Loans.	Other sources.	Total.	Administration and collection of taxes.	Public safety.	Water-supply and drainage. Capital.	Water-supply and drainage. Maintenance.	Conservancy.	Hospitals and Dispensaries.	Public works.	Public instruction.	Other heads.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91...	...	867	154	162	...	900	2,083	574	648	...	...	571	...	181	...	298	2,272
1891-92...	...	1,201	92	89	...	879	2,261	311	617	...	...	567	...	86	...	364	1,945
1892-93...	...	1,513	96	85	...	883	2,577	128	700	71	25	528	100	221	...	428	2,201
1893-94...	...	1,452	72	138	...	884	2,546	185	670	206	25	606	...	505	..	569	2,766
1894-95...	...	1,667	86	184	...	1,108	3,045	210	684	147	145	561	...	541	...	685	2,973
1895-96...	...	1,138	114	177	...	1,502	2,931	192	690	...	32	560	...	437	...	732	2,643
1896-97...	...	1,094	56	193	...	1,050	2,393	224	813	50	42	691	..	407	...	970	3,197
1897-98...	...	2,016	62	109	...	1,082	3,269	226	837	287	22	644	...	218	...	723	2,957
1898-99...	...	1,418	208	185	...	1,281	3,092	222	810	280	4	648	...	163	63	617	2,807
1899-1900	...	1,347	51	92	...	1,244	2,734	351	828	349	14	644	...	175	75	651	3,087
1900-1901	...	1,510	90	125	...	1,542	3,267	242	878	235	15	655	..	115	75	834	3,049
1901-1902	...	1,256	57	538	...	1,127	2,978	226	780	...	...	668	55	345	208	540	2,822
1902-1903	...	1,315	60	137	...	1,932	3,444	269	783	170	15	656	36	185	208	639	2,961
1903-1904	...	1,257	42	132	...	5,303	6,734	206	793	1,000	1,300	799	36	1,209	208	910	6,461
1904-1905																	
1905-1906																	
1906-1907																	
1907-1908																	
1908-1909																	
1909-10...																	
1910-11...																	
1911-12...																	
1912-13...																	
1913-14...																	

* Converted into a notified area on 1st April, 1904.

TABLE XVII.—*Distribution of Police*, 1904.

Thana.	Sub-Inspectors.	Head Constables.	Constables.	Municipal Police.	Town Police.	Rural Police.	Road Police.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Lakhimpur ...	4	1	15	23	5	259	...
Gola ...	4	1	12	...	...	190	12
Muhamdi ...	4	1	15	..	11	152	6
Nighasan ...	4	1	15	...	...	179	...
Mitauli ...	3	1	12	...	...	153	2
Isanagar ...	3	1	12	...	...	133	...
Nimgaon ...	2	1	8	...	...	143	...
Pasgawan ...	3	1	8	...	...	121	8
Dhaurahra ...	3	1	12	...	5	129	...
Phulbihar ...	2	1	8	...	...	106	...
Bhira ...	2	1	8	...	...	106	4
Palia ...	2	1	8	...	...	59	...
Civil Reserve ...	9	11	45	...	...		...
Armed Police ...	1	16	78	...	...	...	...
Total ...	46	39	256	23	21	1,730	32

TABLE XVIII.—*Education.*

Year.	Total.			Secondary education.			Primary education		
	Schools and Colleges.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.	
		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1896-97 ...	92	3,591	147	5	554	..	86	3,032	147
1897-98 ...	97	3,649	171	6	538	...	90	3,109	171
1898-99 ...	99	3,856	112	5	532	...	93	3,304	112
1899-1900 ...	118	3,995	137	6	614	...	111	3,366	137
1900-1901 ...	125	4,141	134	6	639	...	118	3,486	134
1901-1902 ...	128	4,212	156	6	657	...	121	3,527	156
1902-1903 ...	167	5,776	135	6	724	...	161	5,052	135
1903-1904 ...	163	5,646	189	6	700	...	157	4,946	189
1904-1905 ...									
1905-1906 ...									
1906-1907 ...									
1907-1908 ...									
1908-1909 ...									
1909-10 ...									
1910-11 ...									
1911-12 ...									
1912-13 ...									
1913-14 ...									

LIST OF SCHOOLS, 1904.

A.—SECONDARY.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of School.	Average attendance.
Lakhimpur	Kheri ...	Lakhimpur ...	High School ...	77
		Ditto (Dharam-Sabha).	Anglo-Vernacular ...	84
		Kheri ...	Middle-Vernacular ...	144
Muhamdi	Muhamdi	Muhamdi ...	Ditto ...	139
	Pasgawan	Barwar ...	Ditto ...	78
	Aurangabad.	Aurangabad ...	Ditto ...	94

B.—PRIMARY.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of School.	Average attendance.
Lakhimpur.	Kheri ...	Oel ...	Upper Primary ...	77
		Lagcha ...	Ditto ...	71
		Kaimahra ...	Ditto ...	52
		Amirtaganj ...	Ditto ...	36
		Nagar ...	Lower Primary ...	20
		Piparia Andu ...	Ditto ...	29
		Madanian ...	Ditto ...	37
		Bhira Ghasi ...	Ditto ...	19
		Bhulanpur ...	Ditto ...	24
		Pirpur ...	Ditto ...	16
		Maneora ...	Ditto ...	7*
		Lakhimpur ...	Ditto, girls' ...	34
		Dhaurahra ...	Aided Primary ...	20
		Lakhimpur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Chawich ...	Ditto ...	25
		Gopalapur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Lakhnapur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Sarhauna ...	Ditto ...	12
		Hasnapur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Sisauna ...	Ditto ...	14
		Raipur ...	Ditto ...	11
		Banka ...	Ditto ...	12
	Srinagar...	Katkusma ...	Upper Primary ...	40
		Lakhperaganj ...	Ditto ...	36
		Atkohna ...	Lower Primary ...	19
		Srinagar ...	Ditto ...	17
		Phulbihar ...	Ditto ...	11
		Khaiyan ...	Ditto ...	17
		Nakha ...	Ditto ...	20*
		Muazzamabad ...	Aided Primary ...	38
		Naudhan ...	Ditto ...	22
		Mahewaganj ...	Ditto ...	20
		Kothia ...	Ditto ...	13
	Bhur ...	Aliganj ...	Upper Primary ...	67
		Daudpur ...	Ditto ...	34
		Baragaon ...	Lower Primary ...	24
		Bijua ...	Ditto ...	23

* Court of Wards' School.

LIST OF SCHOOLS, 1904—(*continued*).

B.—Primary—(*continued*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of School.	Average attendance.
Lakhimpur—(*concluded*).	Bhur—(*concluded*)	Gondhia ...	Lower Primary ...	20
		Nausar Gularia ...	Ditto ...	26
		Bhira	Ditto ...	17
		Rasulpanah ...	Ditto ...	20
		Agar Khurd ...	Ditto ...	10*
		Rudpur	Aided Primary ...	23
		Malukapur ...	Ditto ...	19
		Chaurathia ...	Ditto ...	21
		Kurhaiya ...	Ditto ...	19
		Munda Sawaran ...	Ditto ...	15
		Sheopuri ...	Ditto ...	20
	Kukra ...	Roshannagar ...	Lower Primary ...	24
		Kukra	Aided Primary ...	15
		Mailani	Ditto ...	17
		Sansarpur ...	Ditto ...	19
	Paila ...	Paila	Upper Primary ...	57
		Rampur Gokul ..	Ditto ...	52
		Karanpur ...	Ditto ...	44
		Bhallia	Ditto ...	48
		Parsehra... ..	Lower Primary ...	33
		Karanpur Nibha ...	Ditto ...	12*
		Bijhauli	Ditto ...	9*
		Karanpur ...	Aided Primary ...	23
		Wazirnagar ...	Ditto ...	27
		Sakethu	Ditto ...	20
		Sangawan ...	Ditto ...	20
		Khamaul... ...	Ditto ...	15
Muhamdi.	Muhamdi	Muhamdi ...	Private, girls' ...	31
		Ditto ...	Primary, girls' ...	16
		Rajapur	Upper Primary ...	42
		Sisaura	Lower Primary ...	20
		Kachnar	Aided Primary ...	16
		Budhi Khurd ...	Ditto ...	18
		Khirya	Ditto ...	20
		Gulauli	Ditto ...	23
		Asauwa	Ditto ...	16
	Pasgawan	Pasgawan ...	Upper Primary ...	50
		Kakrahi	Ditto ...	46
		Mullanpur ...	Ditto ...	67
		Barwar	Ditto, girls' ...	15
		Jasmandi ...	Lower Primary ...	21
		Bankegaon ...	Ditto ...	22
		Maqsudpur ...	Ditto ...	22
		Dhandhel ...	Aided Primary ...	27
		Gonan	Ditto ...	19
		Jalalpur	Ditto ...	17
		Dilawarpur ...	Ditto ...	20

* Court of Wards' School.

LIST OF SCHOOLS, 1904—*(continued)*.

B.—PRIMARY—*(continued)*.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of School.	Average attendance.
Muhamdi—*(concluded)*.	Pasgawan—*(concluded)*	Chholabari ...	Aided Primary ...	21
		Ajbapur	Ditto ...	18
		Ratanpur ...	Ditto ...	16
		Mohiuddinpur ...	Ditto ...	17
		Panahpur ...	Ditto ...	7
		Ditto ...	Ditto, girls' ...	7
	Haidarabad	Haidarabad ...	Upper Primary ...	55
		Ahmadnagar ...	Ditto ...	59
		Sikandarabad ...	Ditto ...	101
		Gola	Ditto ...	90
		Madarpur ...	Ditto ...	58
		Alipur	Ditto ...	42
		Kotwara	Lower Primary ...	31
		Gharthanian ...	Ditto ...	24
		Sohela	Aided Primary ...	21
		Sarsa	Ditto ...	22
		Raipur	Ditto ...	12
		Roshannagar ...	Ditto ...	28
		Bilahri	Ditto ...	22
	Atwa Piparia	Piparia	Lower Primary ...	28
	Magdapur	Magdapur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Amirnagar ...	Ditto ...	20
		Saraiyan... ...	Aided Primary ...	17
	Kasta ...	Kasta	Upper Primary ..	39
		Mitauli	Ditto ...	66
		Dateli	Lower Primary ...	27
		Babauna	Ditto ...	24
		Kanakhera ...	Ditto ...	33
		Pachdeora ...	Ditto ...	21
		Dari	Aided Primary ...	21
		Dahar	Ditto ...	28
		Khamaria ...	Ditto ...	21
		Lalhanwa ...	Ditto ...	22
		Bhikhampur ...	Ditto ...	24
	Aurangabad	Kalwa	Upper Primary ...	93
		Maikalganj ...	Ditto ...	39
		Khurramnagar ...	Lower Primary ...	22
		Aurangabad ...	Ditto, girls' ...	22
		Kalwa	Ditto, girls' ...	25
		Baikuan ...	Aided Primary ...	29
		Bhagotipur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Changanpur ...	Ditto ...	17
		Jamunian ...	Ditto ...	24
		Ladhiai ...	Ditto ...	11
		Dhakaura ...	Ditto ...	10

LIST OF SCHOOLS, 1904—*(concluded).*

B.—Primary—*(concluded).*

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Class of School.	Average attendance.
Nighasan.	Nighasan	Padhua	Upper Primary ...	48
		Majhgain ...	Lower Primary ...	21
		Tirkaulia ...	Ditto ...	21
		Nighasan ...	Ditto ...	15
		Jhandipurwa ...	Ditto ...	30
		Khamaria ...	Ditto ...	29
		Rakheti	Ditto ...	25
		Khairana ...	Aided Primary ...	24
		Khairani ...	Ditto ...	16
		Lodhauri ...	Ditto ...	14
		Kharohia ...	Ditto ...	15
	Palia ...	Palia Kalan ...	Upper Primary ...	45
		Palia Khurd ...	Aided Primary ...	25
	Khairigarh	Singahi	Upper Primary ...	69
		Banbirpur ...	Lower Primary ...	16
		Motipur	Ditto ...	23
	Firozabad	Isanagar... ...	Upper Primary ...	42
		Birsinghpur ...	Ditto ...	42
		Katauli	Ditto ...	44
		Adlispur... ...	Lower Primary ...	21
		Firozabad ...	Aided Primary ...	22
		Sisaiya	Ditto ...	18
	Dhaurahra	Dhaurahra ...	Upper Primary ...	42
		Kafara	Ditto ...	47
		Matera	Lower Primary ...	12
		Amethi	Ditto ...	25
		Dulhi	Ditto ...	15
		Ramia Bihar ...	Ditto ...	22
		Abhaipur ...	Ditto ...	26
		Maharajnagar ...	Aided Primary ...	15
		Dilawalpur ...	Ditto ...	16
		Semri	Ditto ...	6

ROADS, 1904.	Length.	
A.—PROVINCIAL.		
Metalled roads, bridged and drained throughout.	Miles.	furs.
(i) Lucknow, Sítapur and Sháhjahánpur road	17	0
Total ...	17	0
B.—LOCAL.		
I.—First class roads, metalled, bridged and drained throughout.		
(i) Lakhimpur to Sháhjahánpur (*vide* II, i)	8	1
(ii) Lakhimpur to Sitapur (*vide* II, ii)	1	4
(iii) Lakhimpur to Singahi (*vide* III, i)	5	3
(iv) Gola station to Aliganj (*vide* II, iii)	1	2
(v) Lakhimpur Municipal roads	7	1
Total ...	23	3
II.—Second class roads, unmetalled bridged and drained throughout.		
(i) Lakhimpur to Muhamdi and Sháhjahánpur (*vide* I, i) ...	44	0
(ii) Lakhimpur to Sitapur (*vide* I, ii)	9	0
(iii) Gola to Aliganj (*vide* I, iii)	7	0
Total ...	60	0
III.—Fourth class roads, raised, partially bridged and drained.		
(i) Lakhimpur to Singahi (*vide* I, iii)	20	2
(ii) Lakhimpur to Muhamdi	26	2
(iii) Lakhimpur to Chaparthala	33	2
(iv) Lakhimpur to Khairigarh	31	0
(v) Lakhimpur to Pilibhít	37	0
(vi) Lakhimpur to Bahraich	10	0
(vii) Lakhimpur to Bahramghat	11	0
(viii) Lakhimpur to Dhaurahra	19	0
(ix) Muhamdi to Pasgawan	12	0
(x) Muhamdi to Aurangabad	16	0
(xi) Muhamdi to Pawayan	6	4
(xii) Aliganj to Bijua	12	0
(xiii) Gola to Palia	27	6
(xix) Gola to Khutar	12	4
(xv) Gola to Sitapur	25	2
(xvi) Palia to Nighasan and Materaghat...	45	1
(xvii) Singahi to Halauna and Kakraula	17	0
(xviii) Singahi to Khairigarh	5	0
Total ...	366	7
IV.—Fifth class roads, cleared, partially bridged and drained.		
(i) Amirtaganj to Oel and Behjam	17	0
(ii) Behjam to Bhadeora	7	4
(iii) Kaimahra to Phardahan station	2	0
Total ...	26	4

Roads, 1904.	Length.	
B.—LOCAL—*(concluded)*.		
V.—Sixth class roads, cleared only.	Miles.	furs.
(i) Bhanpur to Mirpur, Kheri, Banskhera and Hathipur ...	18	0
(ii) Bhira to Dariabad	15	0
(iii) Dhaurahra to Sisaiya	6	0
(iv) Matera to Sisaiya, Isanagar and Katauli	20	0
(v) Kheri to Oel	6	0
(vi) Oel to Kaimahra	15	0
(vii) Kardhaiya to Kafara and Dhaurahra	17	0
(viii) Aurangabad to Magdapur and Piparia	18	0
(ix) Mamri to Piparia	10	0
(x) Bhurwara to Gola-Aliganj road	2	0
(xi) Wesleypur to Gola-Aliganj road	3	0
(xii) Singahi to Bharthapur ferry	9	0
(xiii) Palia to Khajuria	24	0
(xiv) Fort to Bamhanpur	5	0
(xv) Fort to Khairigarh	4	0
(xvi) Khairigarh to Richhia	2	0
Total ...	174	0
GRAND TOTAL ...	667	6

FERRIES, 1904.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	River.	Ferry.	Management.	Income.
					Rs.
Nighasan.	Khairigarh ...	Kauriala ...	Manjhra ...	District Board,	690
		Sarju ...	Bathanwa ...	Private ...	...
			Ghazipur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Bairia ...	Ditto ...	...
	Nighasan ...	Do. ...	Dkabarwa ...	Ditto ...	...
			Bangalia ...	Ditto ...	...
			Lalpur ...	Ditto ...	...
		Chauka ...	Sirsi ...	District Board,	1,850
			Pachperi ...	Ditto ...	4,400
			Talia Kunda ...	Ditto ...	620
			Muria Mahadeo...	Ditto ...	430
		...	Grant No. XI ...	Private ...	...
		Ghagra ...	Khamaria ...	District Board,	10
	Dhaurahra	Kauriala ...	Shitaba ...	Ditto ...	*437
			Matera ...	Ditto ...	715
			Sujauli ...	Ditto (Bahraich).	*...
		Hardhua ...	Chak Naithu ...	Private ...	...
			Amethi ...	Ditto ...	...
		Sukhni ...	Jagnupur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Basantapur ...	Ditto ...	...
		Dahawar ...	Narupur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Dhobighata ...	Ditto ...	...
		Baha Nala...	Sargara ...	Ditto ...	...
			Rehua ...	Ditto ...	...
			Sherpur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Materia ...	Ditto ...	...
		Chauka ...	Mainaha ...	District Board,	2,450
			Urra ...	Ditto ...	1,920
			Dulamau ...	Ditto ...	2,925
			Maharia ...	Ditto ...	975
			Kachlaha ...	Private ...	...
			Mundi ...	Ditto ...	...
			Gangolia ...	Ditto ...	...
			Sakhetu ...	Ditto ...	...
			Aira ...	Ditto ...	...
			Reharia ...	Ditto ...	...
	Firozabad...	Kauriala ...	Zalimnagar ...	District Board (Bahraich).	...
			Thatwa ...	Ditto ...	...
			Ganapur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Chandauli ...	Ditto ...	...
		Kauriala Soti	Singawar ...	Private ...	...
			Bela ...	Ditto ...	...
			Kabraha ...	Ditto ...	...

* These two ferries are managed in alternate years by the Kheri and Bahraich Boards.

FERRIES, 1904—(*continued*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	River.	Ferry.	Management.	Income.
					Rs.
Nighasan—(*concluded*).	Firozabad—(*concluded*).	Dahawar ...	Ranjitganj ...	Private ...	...
			Naurangpur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Sadhwapur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Godpurwa ...	Ditto ...	...
			Mandeora ...	Ditto ...	...
		Chauka Soti	Jathra ...	Ditto ...	...
			Khairighat ...	Ditto ...	...
	Palia ...	Chauka ..	Patwara ...	District Board,	750
			Srinagar ...	Ditto ...	600
			Khamaria ...	Private ...	...
			Kharchana ...	Ditto ...	...
			Kataia ...	Ditto ...	...
			Narausa ...	Ditto ...	...
Lakhimpur.	Srinagar ...	Old Chauka	Maksoha ...	Ditto ...	...
			Chapehdi ...	Ditto ...	...
			Pasia ...	Ditto ...	...
			Daudpur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Naugaza ...	Ditto ...	...
			Sarsawa ...	Ditto ...	...
			Reharia ...	Ditto ...	...
		Ghaghi ...	Naudhan ...	Ditto ...	...
		Ghagra ...	Mahola ...	Ditto ...	...
			Bednanpur ...	Ditto ...	...
		Ul ...	Kamachhia ...	Ditto ...	...
			Takiaghat ...	Ditto ...	...
			Banwaripur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Barhaghat ...	Ditto ...	...
			Bilahri ...	Ditto ...	...
			Rehua ...	Ditto ...	...
			Dumohani ...	Ditto ...	...
			Katkusma ...	Ditto ...	...
			Kirtiapur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Pipri ...	Ditto ...	...
			Nakha ...	Ditto ...	...
	Paila ...	Do. ...	Manwapur ...	Ditto ...	...
Muhamdi.	Atwa Piparia	Kathna ...	Chaituwa ...	Ditto ...	...
	Magdapur...	Do. ...	Jamnaghat ...	Ditto ...	...
			Korwa ...	Ditto ...	...
	Aurangabad	Do. ...	Aliapur ...	Ditto ...	...
			Kathnaghat ...	Ditto ...	...
			Wailighat ...	Ditto ...	...
			Chailia ...	Ditto ...	...
			Bhadaria ...	Ditto ...	...
			Usri ...	Ditto ...	...
			Biana ...	Ditto ...	...
	Muhamdi ...	Gumti ...	Madher ...	Ditto ...	...
			Maina ...	Ditto ...	...
			Sandori ...	Ditto ...	...
			Purena ...	Ditto ...	...

FERRIES, 1904—(*concluded*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	River.	Ferry.	Management.	Income.
					Rs.
Muhamdi—(*concluded*).	Magdapur ...	Gumti ...	Marwa ...	District Board	...
			Marhighat ...	Ditto ...	...
			Barehti ...	Ditto ...	..
			Pipraghat ..	Ditto ...	...
			Mahadeoghat ...	Ditto ...	...
	Pasgawan	Do. ...	Bhetia ...	District Board	81
	Aurangabad ...	Do. ...	Marena ..	Private	
			Kotla Kandu ...	Ditto ...	...
			Aliapur ...	Ditto ...	..
			Kotlia ...	Ditto ...	...

POST-OFFICES, 1904.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Post-office.	Class.	Management.
Lakhimpur	Kheri ...	Lakhimpur ...	Head-office ...	Imperial.
		Lakhimpur town,	Sub-office ...	Ditto.
		Kheri town ...	Branch-office,	Ditto.
		Oel ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
		Phardahan ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Bhur ...	Bhira ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
		Munda Sawaran,	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Kukra ...	Kukra railway-station.	Ditto ...	Ditto.
		Mailani ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Paila ...	Nimgaon ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Srinagar ...	Phulbihar ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Muhamdi ...	Muhamdi ...	Muhamdi ...	Sub-office ...	Ditto.
	Haidarabad ...	Gola ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
		Kotwara ...	Branch-office,	Ditto.
		Sikandarabad ...	Ditto ...	District.
	Aurangabad ...	Aurangabad ...	Ditto ...	Imperial.
		Kalwa ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Kasta ...	Mitauli ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Pasgawan ...	Pasgawan ...	Ditto ...	District.
Nighasan ...	Nighasan ...	Nighasan ...	Sub-office ...	Imperial.
		Jhandipurwa ...	Branch-office,	Ditto.
	Dhaurahra ...	Aira ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
		Dhaurahra ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Palia ...	Dudhwaghat ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
		Palia Kalan ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Firozabad ...	Isanagar ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Khairigarh ...	Singahi ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.

MARKETS, 1904.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Market days.
Lakhimpur.	Kheri ...	Kheri	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Dhakwa	Ditto.
		Amirtaganj ...	Ditto.
		Behjam	Ditto.
		Oel	Sunday and Thursday.
		Bhulanpur	Ditto.
		Sidhauna	Ditto.
		Saidapur	Ditto.
		Bhira Ghasi ...	Tuesday.
		Dhaurahra	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Kaimahra	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Gopalapur	Tuesday and Friday.
		Bargadia	Monday and Thursday.
		Tikar	Monday and Friday.
		Lagcha	Ditto.
	Srinagar ...	Kewalpurwa ...	Ditto.
		Mahewaganj ...	Ditto.
		Kothia	Ditto.
		Agra	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Lakhpera	Ditto.
		Khusatwa	Ditto.
		Naudhan	Ditto.
		Nandhwa	Ditto.
		Magsoha	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Phulbihar	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Baragaon	Ditto.
		Gora	Monday and Thursday.
		Atkohna	Sunday and Thursday.
	Kukra-Mailani	Mailani	Ditto.
		Sansarpur	Ditto.
		Kukra	Tuesday and Friday.
		Roshannagar ...	Ditto.
	Bhur ...	Rura	Ditto.
		Chaurathia	Ditto.
		Munda Khurd ...	Ditto.
		Bijua	Monday and Thursday.
		Rasulpanah ...	Ditto.
		Baragaon	Monday and Friday.
		Daudpur	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Gulariha	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Aliganj	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Kardhaiya Manpur ...	Ditto.
	Paila ...	Paila	Ditto.
		Bhallia	Ditto.
		Rampur Gokul ...	Ditto.
		Bhurwara	Monday and Friday.
		Karanpur	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Ghungchi	Monday and Thursday.
		Nimgaon	Sunday and Thursday.

MARKETS, 1904—*(continued)*.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Market days.
Muhamdi.	Muhamdi ...	Muhamdi	Sunday and Thursday.
	Pasgawan ...	Pasgawan	Ditto.
		Mullanpur	Ditto.
		Salhia	Ditto.
		Uchaulia	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Dhandhel	Ditto.
		Barwar	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Bhonanpur	Monday and Thursday.
		Sisauri Nasir ...	Monday and Friday.
		Bhanpur	Tuesday and Friday.
		Ajbapur	Wednesday and Saturday.
	Magdapur ...	Magdapur	Ditto.
		Amirnagar	Monday and Friday.
	Atwa Piparia	Piparia	Sunday and Wednesday.
	Kasta ...	Mitauli	Tuesday and Friday.
		Kasta	Sunday and Thursday.
	Aurangabad ...	Ladhiai	Monday and Saturday.
		Kaimahra	Monday and Friday.
		Kakraha	Sunday and Thursday.
		Jatanganj	Ditto.
	Haidarabad ...	Haidarabad	Ditto.
		Gola	Ditto.
		Raipur	Ditto.
		Ajan	Ditto.
		Kotwara	Monday and Friday.
		Sikandarabad ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Alipur	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Amethi	Ditto.
		Dharawan	Ditto.
Nighasan.	Palia ...	Palia	Ditto.
		Tirkaulia	Monday and Thursday.
		Majhra Kalan ...	Tuesday and Friday.
	Nighasan ...	Nighasan	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Dulhapur	Ditto.
		Babaganj	Tuesday and Friday.
		Tilokpur	Ditto.
		Balipur	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Bamhanpur... ...	Ditto.
		Simra	Ditto.
		Tirkaulia	Sunday and Thursday.
		Jhandipurwa ...	Monday and Friday.
		Tilhar	Monday and Thursday.
		Majhgain	Ditto.
	Khairigarh ...	Singahi	Ditto.

MARKETS, 1904—*(concluded)*.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Market days.
Nighasan—*(concluded)*.	Firozabad—*(concluded)*.	Ranjitganj (Hasnapur),	Monday and Thursday.
		Saimasa	Ditto.
		Katauli	Ditto.
		Barari	Ditto.
		Raghubarganj (Khulraha)	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Sheikhupur... ...	Ditto.
		Isanagar	Tuesday and Friday.
		Narsinghpur ...	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Debipurwa	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Lokahi	Ditto.
	Dhaurahra ...	Kafara	Ditto.
		Durgapur	Ditto.
		Dulhi	Ditto.
		Gudaria	Ditto.
		Dhaurahra	Monday and Friday.
		Unchagaon	Ditto.
		Ramia Bihar ...	Ditto.
		Keshwapur	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Gularia (Aira estate) ...	Ditto.
		Matera	Ditto.
		Lakhan	Ditto.
		Phariapur	Ditto.
		Kardhaiya	Tuesday and Thursday.
		Gularia (Amethi estate),	Sunday and Thursday.

FAIRS, 1904.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Name of fair.	Name	Average attendance.
Lakhimpur.	Kheri ...	Kheri ...	Urs Chheda Mian.	Rajab 18th and 19th ...	3,000
		Ditto ...	Dhanusjag...	Aghan Sudi 1st to 6th...	1,500
		Deoria ...	Ditto ...	Dit o ...	500
		Barkherwa ...	Ditto ...	Aghan Sudi 5th ..	800
		Oel ...	Ditto ...	Pus Sudi 5th ...	700
		Muhammad-pur.	Noghara Pir	1st Sunday of Jeth ...	200
		Lakhimpur...	Dasehra ...	Kuar Sudi 1st to 10th...	10,000
		Ditto ...	Sankata Debi	Asarh Puranmashi .	200
		Ghausia ...	Urs Inayat-ullah Shah.	Sawan Sudi ..	500
		Saidapur ...	Deokali ...	Every Amawas ...	700
		Salempur ...	Bhiryan ...	1st Sunday of Jeth Sudi,	12,000
		Kala Anb ...	Ganeshlila	Sawan Sudi 12th to 24th	400
		Koraiya Jungle.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	300
	Srinagar...	Nakha ...	Ditto ...	Kuar Sudi 2nd to 9th ...	200
		Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Bhadon Sudi 2nd to 11th	200
		Sirkhira ...	Jalbihar ...	Bhadon Sudi 12th ...	300
		Munda ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	3,000
		Atkohna ...	Dhanusjag ...	Aghan Sudi 1st to 6th,	1,500
		Gulariha ...	Hatila Pir ...	1st Sunday in Jeth ...	200
		Mahola ...	Debi Mahola	Asarh Puranmashi ...	4,000
		Payag ...	Badal Shah...	Pus and Jeth ...	300
		Sarwa ...	Sutehri ...	1st Thursday of Aghan,	500
		Tendhua ...	Ditto ...	1st Thursday of Asarh...	800
		Muazzamabad	Chal Pir Shah	1st Thursday of Jeth ...	1,000
		Agra ...	Agasi Baba...	Every Amawas ...	300
		Lilauti ...	Lilanath Mahadeo.	Ditto ...	600
	Bhur ...	Bansi ...	Kales Haran	Ditto .	1,200
		Shahpur ...	Gadainath ...	Ditto ...	1,500
		Rahimnagar Grant.	Lal Pir ...	1st Sunday of Jeth Sudi,	500
Muhamdi.	Muhamdi	Muhamdi ...	Dasehra ...	Kuar Sudi 1st to 10th...	7,000
		Ditto ...	Chhariyan ...	Chait and Asarh ...	300
		Dilawarpur...	Sirsa Ghat...	Jeth and Kartik Sudi 10th.	1,500
		Firozpur ...	Mari Ghat...	Every Amawas ..	200
		Patna ...	Debi-ka-Mela	Ditto ...	100
		Gulauli ...	Mahabir-ka-Mela.	Every Puranmashi ...	50
	Aiwa Piparia	Debi Asthan,	Debi-ka-Mela	Every Amawas ...	100
	Kasta ...	Mirauli ...	Mahadeo ...	Ditto ...	500
		Ghazipur ...	Ditto ...	Baisakh Amawas ...	12,000
		Dateli ...	Dhanusjag...	Aghan Sudi 5th ...	2,000
		Bhikhampur,	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,000
		Ditto ...	Bhairon-ka-Mela.	Jeth ...	250

FAIRS, 1904—*(concluded)*.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Name of fair.	Date.	Average attendance.
Muhamdi—*(concluded)*.	Aurangabad	Aurangabad,	Ramlila ...	Kuar Sudi	12,000
		Ditto ...	Rauza Saiyid Khurram.	Sundays and Thursdays in Jeth.	4,000
		Kalwa ...	Gudar Shah,	Thursday in Aghan ...	5,000
		Kakraha ...	Dhanusjag...	Aghan Badi 5th ...	5,000
		Nawagaon ...	Katki ...	Kartik Puranmashi ...	5,000
		Bahadurnagar.	Dasehra ...	Jeth Sudi 10th ...	10,000
		Hindunagar Grant.	Zind ...	Aghan	1,500
	Haidarabad	Gola ...	Chaiti ...	March	150,000
		Do. ...	Sheoratri ...	February	30,000
		Do. ...	Amawas ...	Every Amawas ...	4,000
		Do. ...	Ramlila ...	Kuar Sudi	10,000
		Ajan ...	Do. ...	Ditto	2,000
		Roshannagar	Gajmochan Nath.	Every Amawas ...	10,000
		Haidarabad...	Ganeshlila ...	Bhadon Sudi ...	800
		Gharthaura	Ditto. ...	Ditto	1,500
		Alipur ...	Dhanusjag ...	Aghan Sudi 5th ...	2,000
		Raipur ...	Bhairon-ka-Mela.	Jeth	200
	Pasgawan	Baldeota ...	Debiji ...	Last Sunday of Baisakh,	1,000
		Barwar ...	Gumti Ghat	Kartik Puranmashi ...	1,000
Nighasan.	Nighasan	Dhakarwa Nankar	Sheoji ...	Ditto	2,000
	Firozabad	Ramlok ...	Katki ...	Ditto	4,000
		Firozabad ...	Malik Shah,	1st Friday in July ...	500
	Dhaurahra	Kufara ...	Lilanath Mahadeo.	Every Amawas ...	4,000
		Lakhahi ...	Ganeshlila,	Bhadon Sudi 12th ...	300
		Dulhi ...	Dhanusjag	Aghan Sudi 9th ...	400
	Khairigarh	Motipur ...	Ditto ...	Aghan Sudi 5th ...	500
		Kalhauri ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	500
		Barsola ...	Barsatan ...	Jeth Badi Amawas ...	1,000
		Khairigarh Fort.	Qila Ghori Shah.	1st Sunday of Chait Sudi	3,000
	Palia ...	Srinagar ...	Dasehra ...	Jeth Sudi 10th ...	700

List of Taluqdars holding land in the Kheri district, 1904.

Number.	Name of Taluqa.	Name of Taluqdar.	Caste.	Parganas in which estate lies.	Villages.			Revenue.
					Whole.	Mahals.	Pattis.	
								Rs.
1	Kapurthala ...	Raja-i-Rajgan Sir Jagatjit Singh Bahadur, K.C.S.I.	Sikh ...	Dhaurahra, Firozabad, Aurangabad and Paila.	38	10	...	28,225
2	Mahmudabad ...	Raja Ali Muhammad Khan.	Sheikh ...	Kasta, Paila and Magdapur ...	68	1	...	46,600
3	Khajurgaon ...	Rana Sheoraj Singh ...	Bais ...	Bhur	2	...	...	1,150
4	Oel ...	Raja Krishn Datt Singh,	Chauhan ...	Kheri, Srinagar, Bhur, Palia, Atwa Piparia, Kukra, Palia and Dhaurahra.	164	11	2	1,24,199
5	Shahpur ...	Rani Sarfaraz Begam ...	Saiyid ...	Muhamdi, Magdapur, Haidarabad, Pasgawan and Kukra.	53	3	...	28,255
6	Khairigarh ...	Rani Surat Kunwar ..	Surajbansi...	Khairigarh, Palia, Dhaurahra, Nighasan and Srinagar.	110	...	...	71,966
7	Kaimahra ...	Rani Dayawant Kunwar,	Chauhan ...	Kheri, Srinagar	36	5	...	30,155
8	Mallanpur ...	Raja Muneshwar Bakhsh Singh.	Raikwar ...	Firozabad	51	3	...	32,815
9	Qila Partábgarh,	Raja Partab Bahadur Singh.	Sombansi ...	Paila, Aurangabad, Haidarabad, Pasgawan, Bhur and Muhamdi.	33	6	...	14,373
10	Mahewa ...	Rani Raghubans Kunwar.*	Chauhan ...	Srinagar, Kheri, Paila, Kukra, Bhur, Dhaurahra, Atwa Piparia, Haidarabad and Nighasan.	126	12	6	95,390
11	Isanagar ...	Thakur Raghuraj Singh,	Jangre ...	Firozabad, Dhaurahra	31	6	...	46,350
12	Maswasi ...	Mahant Harcharan Das,	Nanakshahi	Pasgawan, Muhamdi	15	...	...	8,320
13	Bhur ...	Raj Raghubar Singh ...	Jangre ...	Bhur, Nighasan and Palia... ...	74	6	...	58,580
14	Ramnagar ...	Thakur Gobardhan Singh	Do. ...	Bhur, Nighasan	56	2	...	49,715

* The estate was decreed in July, 1905, to Thakur Sheo Singh, brother of Balbhaddar Singh.

List of Taluqdars holding land in the Kheri district, 1904—(concluded).

Number.	Name of Taluqa.	Name of Taluqdar.	Caste.	Parganas in which estate lies.	Villages.			Revenue.
					Whole.	Mahals.	Pattis.	
								Rs.
15	Katesar ...	Thakurain Pirthipal Kunwar.	Gaur ..	Dhaurahra	1	...	...	350
16	Sarawan Bara-gaon.	Kunwar Durga Parshad,	Kayasth ...	Dhaurahra, Srinagar	20	...	...	12,905
17	Basaidih ...	Thakur Jawahir Singh,	Bais ...	Haidarabad	1	...	...	500
18	Kanhmau ...	Thakur Baldeo Singh ...	Do. ...	Kasta	...	1	...	120
19	Jalalpur ...	Maulvi Iltifat Rasul ...	Saiyid ...	Dhaurahra	6	...	...	2,835
20	Muizuddinpur ...	Seth Raghubar Dayal ...	Khattri ...	Kasta	1	1	...	2,450
21	Paila ...	Rai Ram Din Bahadur,	Kurmi ...	Paila, Haidarabad, Magdapur and Srinagar.	14	2	...	11,215
22	Kotwara ...	Saiyid Raza Husain ...	Ahban Musalman.	Haidarabad, Paila	25	4	...	10,902
23	Raipur ...	Muhammad Sher Khan,	Ditto ...	Ditto	15	2	...	7,430
24	Jalalpur ...	Muhammad Lutf-ullah Khan.	Ditto ...	Bhur, Paila	13	1	...	8,626
25	Mamri ...	Mr. L. D. Hearsey ...	European ...	Atwa Piparia, Palia, Haidarabad, Magdapur, Dhaurahra and Kukra-Mailani.	40	15	2	14,387

GAZETTEER OF KHERI.

INDEX.

A.

B.

L.

M.

N.

O.

P.